

Spokane a First for Bears Saturday

DOUG BUFFONE'S



Chicago

75¢



BEAR REPORT

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE CHICAGO BEARS AND THE NFL.

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BEAR REPORT

VOL. 1, NO. 3

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ON THE COVER . . .

... ON THE INSIDE

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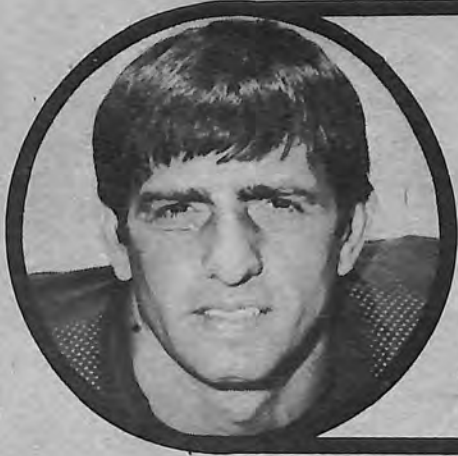


HE LOVES PIZZA-
THAT'S WHY I CALL
HIM - **PIZZA MUTT!**

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Doug Buffone



Bear Fans To Be Lauded

Professional athletics without the sports fan — sounds ridiculous doesn't it. Without sports fans there would be no pro sports.

That's a pretty basic rule. The fan pays his way to see various athletic events and the respective athletes, in return, have their salaries paid. But you had better believe that there is more than just a simple business transaction involved.

Players React

Most people believe that all the rah, rah athletics, the excitement and the thrills, for the athlete, are left on the college campus.

That just isn't true. The professional players do react to the fans, they do get excited — there is an effect and I've seen it happen for ten years in Chicago.

The Best Fans Around

It's easy for sports fans to support a winning effort. People come out of the woodwork to be associated with a winner — we call those fans front-runners.

But I'd like to address my comments to the people throughout Chicagoland that haven't had that much to cheer about concerning the Bears

for a number of years. And yet, the stadiums at Wrigley Field (through 1970) and Soldier Field, have continued to be filled with those loyal backers who enjoy pro football and the Bears.

All Games Important

It's the fan that can help keep a player's interest in his job at a peak throughout the season.

I can remember one game in particular in 1969. It was the end of the year, the last of 14 games, and we were 1-12 (our one win coming over Pittsburgh, 38-7).

We were playing Detroit, also 1-12, at Wrigley Field. It was a typical late December (21) day, with accompanying cold and snow. And yet the fans came out with great enthusiasm and in great numbers.

Here we were, two lower division teams playing on the season's last day, really a nothing game. But the fans had both teams so pumped up that we might have believed that it was the Super Bowl.

Tradition

The support of the Bears is something that is important to all of us on the team, but it is some-

thing that has not come overnight.

The Bears have the honor of being the National Football League's oldest team (since 1920) and through the last 56 years an outstanding tradition has been built. George Halas (our founder) has attracted such stars to Chicago as Bronco Nagurski, Red Grange, Sid Luckman, Bill George, Gale Sayers, Dick Butkus and the list goes on and on.

The people of Chicago have been treated to some great professionals and they've responded greatly to build an excellent tradition.

Thank You

You Bear fans have made my career a much more enjoyable job. The cheers of approval following a successful defensive stand is something that can't be accounted for in dollars and cents.

All of us on the team certainly appreciate your patience and support.

A return to the top? It's coming for the Chicago Bears and I don't say that just as idle talk. We're on our way, but we can't be successful without the support of our fans — you're the best around.



Bears On Display

At left is the current display for the Chicago Bears at the Pro Football Hall of Fame. The display is part of the Hall's Professional Football Today exhibition.

The Pro Football Hall of Fame is located in Canton Ohio. (Special Photo)



MUSSO ON MOVE . . . running back Johnny Musso (22) looks upfield for some extra yardage against Denver. Roland Harper leads Musso's efforts, while Bronco safety Steve Foley makes his bid to stop the play. Musso was the Bears' top rusher of the game. (Special Photo)

Bears Defense Keys 15-14 Denver Win

by Kevin Pates
Bear Report Editor

All through the first three weeks of pre-season training, the talk from the Chicago Bears camp had been to 'watch out for the defense'. Oh, not in the sense of 'look out because we're coming after you,' but rather, 'look out fans, our defense could be a little shaky this season'.

A Good Start

Well for the minute, the Bears defensive unit has tossed aside its supposed instability, just ask Denver Bronco quarterbacks John Hufnagel and Norris Weese.

Those two signal callers were dropped in their tracks no fewer than seven times last Saturday as the Bears' defense helped to protect a 15-14 win in Denver.

It was the first game of the pre-season for the Bears and the second for Denver, which had opened with a 10-7 win over Detroit in the Hall of Fame Game a week earlier.

Interception

Second-year quarterback Bob Avellini started for the Bears, but the former Maryland athlete had his feathers ruffled early. With the Bears in a third-and-six situation at their own 36, during its first series, an Avellini aerial was picked off by Bronco corner back Louis Wright. The 6-2 Wright darted 63 yards with his stolen goods for the game's first score; veteran Jim Turner kicked the point after for a 7-0 Denver lead.



Roland Harper (35) 'advances to be recognized' against the Broncos. Denver defensive tackle Rubin Carter presents himself as an obstacle. (Special Photo)

Avellini On Target

Avellini settled down during the Bears' next offensive series, getting his team close enough for a 45-yard field goal by Bob Thomas.

The Bears' number one QB hit both Mike Adame (10 yards) and recovering Ron Shanklin (21 yards) during the drive. With Chicago now behind 7-3 the much discussed defense went to work.

Pressure

Denver was to have the ball five more times in the first half, but could only manage 50 yards in total offense during that time.

Tackles Jim Osborne and Wally Chambers continually led the charge and befuddled Hufnagel in his attempts to move the Broncos. Three successive sacks of Hufnagel concluded the first half.

Offense

And while the Bears' defense was blanking Denver, Johnny Musso was becoming the mainstay on offense. A knee injury to Walter Payton late in the week put the rushing duties with Musso and Roland Harper.

Musso was instrumental in getting Chicago into field goal range again, following a Chamber's fumble recovery. Thomas hit his second three-pointer, from 25-yards out with 1:14 remaining in the first half — which left Denver with a one-point 7-6 intermission lead.

Carter Smooth

Also getting a good look at quarterback was returnee Virg Carter (last playing for the Bears in 1969). During his first series of the pre-season, Carter marched the Bears to the Denver 37. Yet Thomas' 55-yard field goal went off to the side. Included in the drive was a 14-yard Carter-to-Payton pass.

His next series was culminated in a 49-yard field goal by rookie Rick Danmeier (Sioux Falls). Musso carried four times in the drive, while Carter hooked-up with receivers Bob Grim (11 yards) and Ron Parker (13 yards). The field goal put the Bears in the lead for good at 9-7.

The Clincher

With 1:37 left in the third quarter the Bear defense came up with one of its big plays. On a first down situation, Weese was under pressure from end Gary Hrivnak. Weese threw the ball up and Bear tackle Ron Rydalch was on the receiving end for the interception — giving the Bears

the ball on the Bronco 22.

Five plays later Musso went up-and-over from the two and the Bears led 15-7 (after missing the PAT).



Second-year quarterback Bob Avellini readies to pass during Denver game. Avellini saw action throughout the first half, while Virgil Carter was the Bears QB in the second 30 minutes. (Special Photo)



MUSSO ON MOVE . . . running back Johnny Musso (22) looks upfield for some extra yardage against Denver. Roland Harper leads Musso's efforts, while Bronco safety Steve Foley makes his bid to stop the play. Musso was the Bears' top rusher of the game. (Special Photo)

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Second-year quarterback Bob Avellini readies to pass during Denver game. Avellini saw action throughout the first half, while Virgil Carter was the Bears QB in the second 30 minutes. (Special Photo)

Tough Down Stretch

Denver came right back on the ensuing kick off to put seven points up on the board. The tally came on a three-yard pass from Weese to back Mike Franckowiak.

It was with 5:30 to play that Denver began its last drive from its own seven. Four minutes later they were within field goal range at the Chicago 42 and the Bears' 15-14 lead was in jeopardy.

With fourth-and-17 facing Weese, he had apparently attained a first down on a pass to John Schultz at the Bear 20. Yet, as Schultz was gathering in the pass, he was cracked by free safety Doug Plank and the ball popped into the air. Linebacker Waymond Bryant picked the fumble up in mid-air and the victory was preserved. The Bears were then able to run off the final 1:16.

On To Seattle

Having shown that there may be fewer defensive questions than expected, the Bears now move on to the state of Washington for a meeting with the first-year Seattle Seahawks.

The Bears and Seahawks meet at 9 p.m. (Chicago time) on Saturday in Spokane. The game can be heard on WGN Radio (720) and seen on Channel 2 (WBBM-TV).

Bear Notes

How the '75 Bears Rated in NFL Stats

Running back Walter Payton (with 679 yards) finished ninth in NFL rushing last year, ahead of players like Altie Taylor and Preston Pearson ... Roland Harper (453) was listed 17th, ahead of John Brockington and Ed Marinaro ... Mike Adamle (353) was 26th in front of Larry Brown and Ron Johnson ...

Only two other NFC runners bettered Payton's seven rushing touchdowns — the Viking's (13) Chuck Forman and St. Louis' Terry Metcalf (9).

Books and Wedding Bells for Livers

During the off-season, Bear corner back Virgil Livers taught at Western Kentucky in addition to working on his masters degree in education.

Virgil also joined the married ranks in January, his wife's name is Linda.



Johnny Musso takes this Bob Avellini pitchout in the pre-season opener. Musso was the game's leading rusher with 79 yards. (Special Photo)



I've Got It ... Bear defensive tackle Wally Chambers (60) and Denver quarterback John Hufnagel (16) both scramble for a loose ball during first half action at Mile High Stadium. Chambers came up with the fumble recovery. (Special Photo)

Chicago at Denver Stats July 31, 1976

Individual Statistics Leaders

Chicago					
RUSHING					
	Att.	Net	Avg.	Lg.	TD
Musso.....	21	79	3.8	15	1
Harper.....	10	41	4.1	13	0
Adamle.....	4	13	3.3	5	0
PASSING					
	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Lg.	Int.
Avellini.....	14	7	78	21	1
Carter.....	7	4	41	14	0
Musso.....	1	0	0	0	0
RECEIVING					
	No.	Yds.	Lg.		
Musso.....	3	18	9		
Adamle.....	2	19	10		
PUNTING					
	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lg.	
Parsons.....	3	111	37.0	46	
PUNT RETURNS					
	No.	Yds.	Lg.		
Livers.....	3	19	19		
Baschnagel.....	1	7	7		
KICKOFF RETURNS					
	No.	Yds.	Lg.		
Baschnagel.....	1	23	23		
Musso.....	1	16	16		
INTERCEPTIONS					
	No.	Yds.	Rtn.		
Rydalch.....	1	2			

DENVER

RUSHING					
	Att.	Net	Avg.	Lg.	
Franckowiak	5	22	4.4	9	
Weese	4	22	5.5	14	
Keyworth	4	17	4.3	9	
PASSING					
	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Lg.	TD
Hufnagel	7	5	54	19	0
Weese	13	9	130	49	1
RECEIVING					
	No.	Yds.	Lg.	TD	
Franckowiak	3	22	14	1	
Perrin	2	23	12	0	
PUNTING					
	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Lg.	
Summers	5	176	35.2	41	
PUNT RETURNS					
	No.	Yds.	Lg.		
Pane	1	12	12		
KICKOFF RETURNS					
	No.	Yds.	Lg.		
Betterson	2	44	25		
INTERCEPTIONS					
	No.	Yds.	Rtn.	TD	
Wright	1	63	1		

TEAM STATISTICS

	Chicago	Denver
Total First Downs	18	13
Rush	6	2
Pass	8	8
Penalty	4	3
Total Net Yards	239	196
Offensive Plays	67	52
Avg. Per Play	3.6	3.8
Net Yards Rushing	153	72
Rushing Plays	41	25
Avg. Per Rush	3.7	2.9
Net Yards Passing	86	124
Att.-Comp.-Int.	22-11-1	20-14-1
Avg. Per Pass	3.3	4.6
Punts-No. and Avg.	3-37.0	5-35.2
Total Ret. Yardage	92	188
Penalties-No. and Yds.	6-46	10-80
Fumbles-No. and Lost.	2-2	4-2

Total		
Defensive leaders	Tack.	Sacks
Bears		
Chambers	6	2
Broncos		
Alzado	9	1

Scoring Summary

Chicago	3	3	3	6-15
Denver	7	0	0	7-14
Denver — Wright, 63-yard interception return (Turner kick)				
Chicago — Thomas, 45-yard field goal				
Chicago — Thomas, 25-yard field goal				
Chicago — Danmeier, 49-yard field goal				
Chicago — Musso, 2-yard run (kick failed)				
Denver — Franckowiak, 3-yard pass from Weese (Turner kick)				
Attendance — 22,495 (Mile High Stadium)				



Greg Gordon

- A Bear Report Regular -

1975 - A Year to Learn for Shanklin

Sitting under a tree to escape the 95-degree heat at the Bears' training camp, Ron Shanklin reached up and clasped second year quarterback Bob Avellini's hand in a warm greeting.

"You're looking trim, man!" Shanklin told the man who would soon be throwing him passes.

"How's the knee?" Avellini responded. "You want to throw a little bit?"

Shanklin grinned.

"Sure. Whenever you're ready."

The talk was small, but the message was large. Ron Shanklin was ready to play football again. Bob Avellini was delighted.

On the eve of the club's first summer workout, it was like the beginning of a new partnership. It also may have been the early shaping of a pass combo that could add new punch to the Bears' offense.

Knee Injury

Shanklin has been a Bear for a year, but he describes his role so far as that of a "silent partner." While Avellini was winning the first string quarterback job last season, Shanklin was slouched on the bench nursing an injured knee.

Avellini, who is expected to retain his quarterback spot this season, had for all practical purposes never thrown a pass to the man who could be his ace receiver.

When Shanklin joined the Bears in 1975, Avellini was still the third string quarterback.

"Bobby Douglass and Gary Huff were doing all the throwing to him," Avellini recalls, "and then he got hurt in the second exhibition game. I just never really got a chance to throw the ball to Ron, except maybe in a game of catch on the sidelines."

In the Bears' second exhibition game against the Miami Dolphins, Shanklin got hit on the blind side and twisted his knee. The doctors diagnosed it as torn cartilage, the first serious injury of his career. Shanklin, one of the top pass catchers in the National Football League whom the Bears had swooped up from the Super Bowl champion Pittsburgh Steelers in exchange for two draft choices, was out for the season before it had even begun.

Shanklin took it stoically.

Learning

"I had a chance to sit back and watch it happen," he said. "It was educational, too. I've been playing ball for six years and I've always gone straight ahead into the season."

"I had a chance to find out where am I, who am I and why am I? I found out that being traded is the nature of this business."

Two years ago at Pittsburgh, Shanklin asked to be traded. He was a malcontent — in spite of those big Super Bowl bonuses he was getting.

"In Pittsburgh, I had reached a point where I had lost enthusiasm," he said. "You get these little personal hassles, I don't care how minor, and you get to thinking about them and they take off of your performance."

"Lynn Swann and I were splitting a lot of playing time. One year I only caught 29 passes and I made all-pro. But my forte has always been productivity. I saw, that after all these years of running the football, that we were starting to pass.

And I'm on the bench. So now I'm starting to gripe. I'm dissatisfied. I'm saying, 'Hey, let me go to a team where I'm useful.'

"A layman would say, 'Why doesn't he take the money and run?' Well, the Super Bowl is great, but your skills erode if you don't use them."

"After a while, I just got fed up," Shanklin said. "I asked to be traded."

Shanklin hasn't regretted it.

Now a Bear

"We (the Bears) played Pittsburgh on October 19 of last year," he recalled. "Being a sport, I donned my Bears equipment and walked into

the Steelers' lockerroom before the game. It was kind of like going back home and everybody was in the same old rut. They were saying, 'Chicago must be nice. Tell me something new.'"

The 28-year-old, seventh year veteran could have told them a lot, because there was much for him to see from the bench in his first season in Chicago. He watched general manager Jim Finks and coach Jack Pardee completely reshuffle the roster, cutting and trading away more than 30 veterans.

"There were all kinds of things going on that I was saying, 'Wow, how can you get away with

Continued on Next Page



Wide receiver Ron Shanklin goes through some leg strengthening exercises on the team's Universal Gym equipment. Shanklin comes into 1976 off of a knee injury suffered in last year's second game. (Photo by Bill Smith)

Greg Gordon continued

that?" Shanklin said. "But I have total confidence in Jack Pardee. Everything I've seen here has been healthy. There's nothing that I've seen that I can say, in earnest, 'That won't work.'"

Shanklin knows about building winners, after spending his first five years in Pittsburgh. "In my rookie season at Pittsburgh we were 1-13", he said. "Five years later we won the Super Bowl."

His only question mark appears to be his knee, and he lifted 350-pound weights with his legs during the off-season to recover from surgery last Dec. 2.

Ready For Action

"I'm not apprehensive about playing again," Shanklin said. "There's no question in my mind I can do it. I ran a 4.6-second 40-yard dash last spring. I can get by with that running pass patterns, but I'd like to get it down to 4.4 again."

The knee bothered Shanklin during some of the Bears' early workouts, but team doctors are convinced he can contribute again. So are Finks and Pardee.

Shanklin is bubbling with enthusiasm, after a year of waiting to show his stuff to Chicago fans.

"In Pittsburgh, it had become sort of a drudgery thing," he said. "I'm happier here. And I think we could surprise some people. I'm not saying Super Bowl, but improvement is what you look for in a ball club like this."

"Right now, I'd say I'd like to play two more years. But if I could be instrumental in taking the Bears into the divisional championship and the playoffs, you might have to take me out of there in a wheelchair."

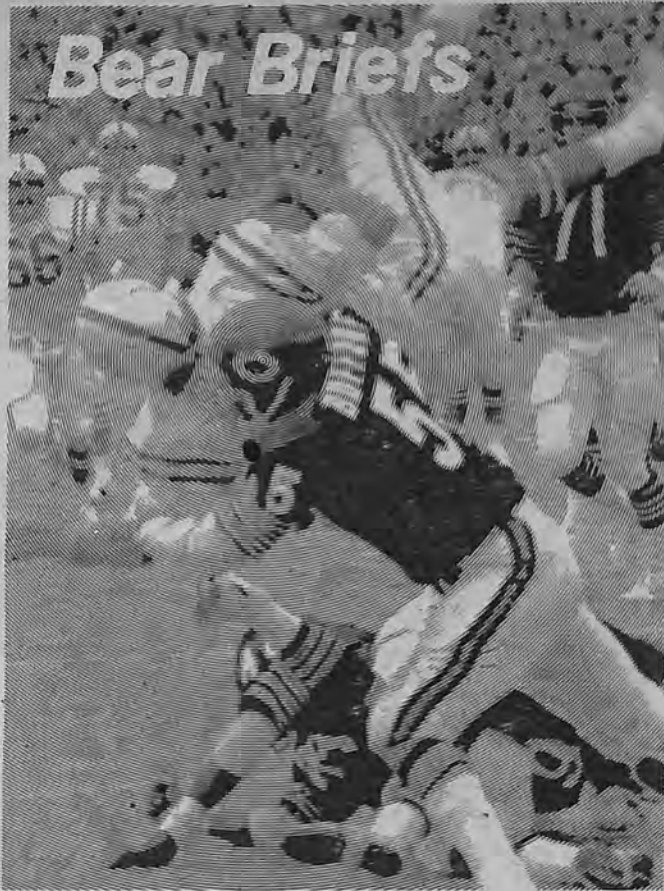
"I remember Doug Buffone saying last year, 'I'm not doing it. This is my last year.' Then he said, 'Hey, there's too many good things happening with the Bears. I'm not quitting.'"

"Well, I've been to the Super Bowl and I know what that experience is. I'd like to go back. I'd like to go back with the Bears."

Greg Gordon is a writer for United Press International in Chicago.



At another exercise station, Ron Shanklin works on building upper body strength. (Photo by Bill Smith)

**Changing**

The Bears were a 2-4 pre-season team a year ago, but things have changed considerably since then. Ten 1975 rookies had fought their way into the starting line-up by the season's end. Most of the pre-season opponents saw quarterback Bob Avellini and running back Walter Payton only in the pre-game warm-ups.

Now the pair represent a large measure of Chicago optimism for the Bear offensive unit. Avellini directed the Bears to 101 of their 191 points last season when he took over the quarterbacking duties from veteran Gary Huff.

Payton, who missed six weeks of his rookie year after the College All-Star game because of injuries, is healthy and eager to make his NFL mark. Payton averaged 31.4 yards to win the NFL kickoff return title a year ago, while rushing for 679 yards and seven touchdowns.

Tight Ends

Tight ends Greg Latta and Gary Butler both continued to be bothered by groin injuries prior to the Denver game. Bob Parsons and rookie Ron Parker were expected to get a good look against the Broncos.

"The tight end situation has got me as worried as anything," coach Jack Pardee said. "Latta is missing practice time that he really needs. He was making good progress until he got hurt."

Berry Helping

Eighth-year veteran Royce Berry is a newcomer that is adding experience to the Bear defense. The former Cincinnati star is currently second behind Roger Stillwell at right end. "He's a knowledgeable player," Pardee said last week following a pleasing performance by the defense.

Other Bumps and Bruises

Safety Craig Clemons (jammed toe) was held out of practice early last week. Following a death in the family, and his injury, Clemons had missed a full week of practice. Third-year man Bill Knox (Purdue) was expected to start in his place in Denver.

Only guard Bob Newton, with a strained achilles tendon, was ruled definitely out of the opener against the Broncos.

Injuries, especially to offensive lineman, forced Pardee to cancel a 120-play scrimmage session for July 24 (the week prior to the Denver game).

Player Limit

The National Football League, as of last week, had not yet set a player limit for the current season. Yet Bears' general manager Jim Finks has said that the directive, set by the team owners, should probably be handed down sometime in mid-August. The Bears have already reduced their roster size below what it would normally be at this time of the season.

Baschnagel

In addition to working as a free safety, rookie Brian Baschnagel (Ohio State) will be working as a kick return specialist. He is currently listed behind former Buckeye teammate Doug Plank at safety.

Around the League

First-year coach Dick Vermeil, at Philadelphia, has said that defensive back Joe Lavender is no longer an Eagles' player. Lavender has yet to sign an Eagle contract.

Ex-Bear Mirro Rodder, has missed some Cincinnati Bengal practice time because of tightness in his leg. Rodder kicked for the Bears in 1973 and '74.

Former Ohio State kicking star Tom Klaban, recently cut by the Bears, has been added to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers roster. The rookie was originally drafted by Cincinnati.

In talking about the College All-Star game, Pittsburgh coach Chuck Noll expressed some disappointment, in that his plan to utilize some of his newcomers was aborted by the early conclusion. "We were just starting to get them in when the game was stopped," he said.

Joe Greene, coming off his groin and shoulder injuries of 1975, made an impressive return against the All-Stars as he alternated with Steve Furness through the early part of the game. Then the Steelers started juggling their defensive line and he (Furness) played most of the time.

Nielsen television ratings for the week July 20-26 showed that the Olympic Coverage on ABC was first each night. The College All-Star game ranked 11th overall.

**INTRODUCING
A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE
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AND THE
NFL!**



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Pickers Poll Picker's Peak for Pre-Season Predictions

BY RANDY WIEVEL, TIM SULLIVAN,
AND MIKE HABERMAN

The second full weekend of NFL pre-season games will feature Oakland and St. Louis before a sure-to-be capacity crowd in Tempe, Arizona's Sun Devil Stadium, the home of Arizona State and the Fiesta Bowl. If you're planning on being in the Valley of the Sun and would like to take in this clash but don't have a ticket, all hope is not lost.

You see, anybody can watch a football game free-of-charge at Sun Devil Stadium as long as they have a little Sir Edmund Hillary in their blood and aren't afraid of heights. The simple trick: looming over the western rim of the arena are a number of high buttes which afford a fine view of the gridiron. The largest of the bluffs is aptly named Picker's Peak.

Hours before kickoff, the mountaineer-fans attack. To a Sherpa, it would look like an expedition of Himalaya seekers, what with all the provisions being carted up the rock walls. The bluffs take on personalities of their own during the game. School cheers ring out, campfires blaze, people go up and, sometimes, people fall down.

Bruce Baker, a mountain regular, describes the scene vividly: "It's like a cross between a Fellini movie and a Cheech & Chong album."

Why would anybody want to watch a football game from a hard slab where one false step might put them, literally, in the coffin corner? Superpicker Wievel directed that question to some Picker's Peak pigskin paranoids.

"Well," said Tom Shipe from Madison, Wis. "I go up here because it's the only exercise I get all week."

Jersey City's Bob Patton allowed, "During ASU games, it's the only place I feel safe from Frank Kush."

Jane Keeley, from Owensboro, Kentucky, explained her presence on the Peak in one word:

"Liquor!"

Don Larson (Vicksburg, Mississippi) took issue with the question. "Mountain? Ah wouldn't call this a mountain! In Mississippi we'd call this a hill!"

Carson City, Nevada native Mark Scott said he climbs the hill to watch girls. Joanne Christopherson, from Longview, Washington, merely mentioned that she likes to attend sporting events. "It's a great place to watch the game from up here. I really like it when they score a home run," she explained.

And Bill McKee from Akron put the site in its proper perspective: "You don't have to listen to Chris Schenkel or Howard Cosell up here."

For those who prefer to view the action from the TV chair, the mountain-people of Arizona will make their 1976 national television debut September 7 when UCLA collides with ASU.

For them, the Raider-Cardinal game will be a test-run. (We were going to say dry-run, but after watching a game from the mountain, that choice of words seemed terribly inaccurate).

By the way, we'll pick Oakland by a touchdown. The other games will be:

BALTIMORE OVER WASHINGTON — The Colts always beat the Skins. This time it should be by 3, and no, the game is not being played at Fort McHenry.

NEW ENGLAND OVER SAN DIEGO — The Pats' Chuck Fairbanks makes his return to Norman, Oklahoma ... and he's thankful he's playing the Chargers instead of Nebraska. Patriots win by 4.

MINNESOTA OVER KANSAS CITY — Mike Livingston will fall down more often than Chevy Chase. And it's Saturday Night yet! Purple People by 10.

RAMS OVER COWBOYS — Rumors abound that Dallas is pulling out of this one to protest the presence of New Zealand's rugby team in

South Africa. The Rams by 2, and they still might have trouble winning if Harris is the QB.

CLEVELAND VERSUS ATLANTA — Some blockhead scheduled this for Stillwater, Oklahoma. Where's that? Falcons by 3, as Forrest Gregg and Marion Campbell stay home and merely call their scores in.

HOUSTON OVER NEW ORLEANS — Football players are about the only thing Houston's got over New Orleans. Bum and the boys by 7.

GREEN BAY OVER TAMPA BAY — As Cubs announcer Jack Brickhouse would say, "Oh Bay!" Packers should erupt for a 3-touchdown triumph.

CHICAGO OVER SEATTLE — There will be plenty of Seahawk feathers strewn all around the Kingdome after the Bears invasion. Seattle's lone hope is for Slick Watts to steal the game ball. Bears by 20.

MIAMI OVER DETROIT — If "Bird" Fidyrych is pitching in Tiger Stadium at the same time, the paid attendance in Pontiac could well be zero. And that's about how many points the Lions will score. Dolphins by 9.

SAN FRANCISCO OVER DENVER — Jim Plunkett is back home now, and he throws better than the Count of Montefusco. 49ers take it by 2.

PHILADELPHIA OVER PITTSBURGH — Rookie coach Dick Vermeil has a knack for knocking off top-ranked teams. Just ask Woody Hayes. Eagles by 6.

CINCINNATI OVER BUFFALO — The most notable thing concerning this game is that for the first time in four years, Superpicker Sullivan actually spelled Cincinnati right. That's good for the Bengles by 10.

NEW YORK OVER NEW YORK — If you want details, it's the Jets over the Giants by 3, but who really cares except somebody from New York?

Super Sports Quiz Number Three

BY RANDY WIEVEL, TIM SULLIVAN,
and MIKE HABERMAN

1. The Chicago Bears have two rookies on their roster who have been teammates since high school. Name them.

- a. Brian Baschnagel and John Sciarra
- b. Billy Marek and Dennis Lick
- c. Ike Turner and Tina Turner
- d. Scott May and John Laskowski
- e. Jerry Muckensturm and Mickey Malham

2. There were two players picked ahead of Fran Tarkenton in the Vikings first college draft back in '61. Tommy Mason was one. Who was the other?

- a. Carl Eller
- b. Ed Sharockman
- c. Nadia Comaneci
- d. Rip Hawkins
- e. Rip Taylor

3. What does Cowboy reserve quarterback Clint Longley do in his spare time?

- a. Throw darts at Roger Staubach posters
- b. Catch rattlesnakes
- c. Make obscene phone calls
- d. Drink Bullfrog Beer

e. Grows petunias
4. Who is the only man elected to a Pro Hall of Fame in two sports?

- a. Cal Hubbard
- b. Gene Conley
- c. Van Lingle Mungo
- d. Dave DeBusschere
- e. Alex Karras

5. Who was Green Bay's special teams' Player of the Year in 1975?

- a. Charlie Hall
- b. Eric Torkelson
- c. Steve Odom
- d. Bobby Stiles
- e. Warren Capone

6. What Bear rookie scored on a play called "Bummeroski" last year on national TV?

- a. Norm Andersen
- b. Shortcake Cunningham
- c. John O'Leary
- d. Mrs. O'Leary
- e. Walter Payton

7. Who was the last player drafted in this year's college selections?

- a. Filbert Bayi
- b. Junius Boone
- c. David "Roundy" Klutez
- d. Kelvin Kirk
- e. Don Nottingham

8. Who is the only player to have won the Heisman Trophy while playing for a losing team?

- a. Angelo Bertelli
- b. Dick Kaxmaier
- c. John David Crow
- d. Paul Hornung
- e. Sonny Sixkiller

9. True or False: The NFL will play a pre-season game in Japan this summer.

10. Which NFL quarterback recently recorded a hit Country and Western single and has a new album out?

- a. Roy Acuff
- b. Billy Kilmer
- c. Terry Bradshaw
- d. Steve Spurrier
- e. Archie Manning

(Answers on page 14)



Ed Stone

- A Bear Report Regular -

Early Polls Have Avellini #1, Carter #2

Bob Avellini is the first young Bear quarterback in too many years to excite any genuine optimism about the direction the offense is taking.

And that is not just said because the major domo of this publication, Doug Buffone, is a paisan of Avellini, otherwise known as "Avenooch."

The big, spirited New Yorker demonstrated in his only four starts at the end of last season that he has the essential qualities: He's tough physically and mentally; he has the bold moxie that lends itself naturally to field leadership; he has the strong arm and the size (6-2, 212); and he's bright and seems to learn fast.

Avellini's Potential

The progress Avellini made in reading defenses each week of his active duty as a rookie was the real tipoff on his potential. His sack time steadily decreased because he was getting rid of the ball more quickly — also because his determination to stay in the pocket against a heavy rush ultimately inspired stouter protection from his blockers.



Quarterback Gary Huff shows his approval of a particular Bear play that he's engineered. His 55.6% passing figure a year ago was the best by a Bear since 1965. (Photo by Bill Smith)

Coach Jack Pardee frequently and realistically cautions that, "Bob still has a lot to learn." But his continued development this summer indicates that he is an apt student.

Even though Avellini turned in a sparkling effort in 1975's closing triumph over New Orleans (15 of 23 for 263 yards and 3 TDs), backfield coach Fred O'Connor said recently: "He's way ahead of where he was at New Orleans from the standpoint of understanding coverages."

His progress as a "reader" is the key to Avellini's future. His other positive traits should endure.

Could Take Charge

He already has gained the respect of teammates with his willingness to "take the hits." And his aggressive style and sometimes brash personality — give him a whip-cracking credibility with the players that "helps" them to correct their mistakes.

It is not at all difficult to envision Avellini becoming, in only his second pro season, the dynamic leader the Bears need. That might not be easy with hardened veterans, but this is a young team ready to respond to a young quarterback who has shown a poise and maturity beyond his 23 years.

So Avellini is a solid No. 1, even though Pardee is reluctant to concede that anybody has the job locked up. The real surprise is No. 2, where Virgil Carter supplanted Gary Huff early in training.

Virgil Decides To Stay

Carter planned to retire to a business career in California after last season. But his trading activity in the commodity market kept him in Chicago, and when General Manager Jim Finks offered him a new contract with a raise, Virgil decided to stay.

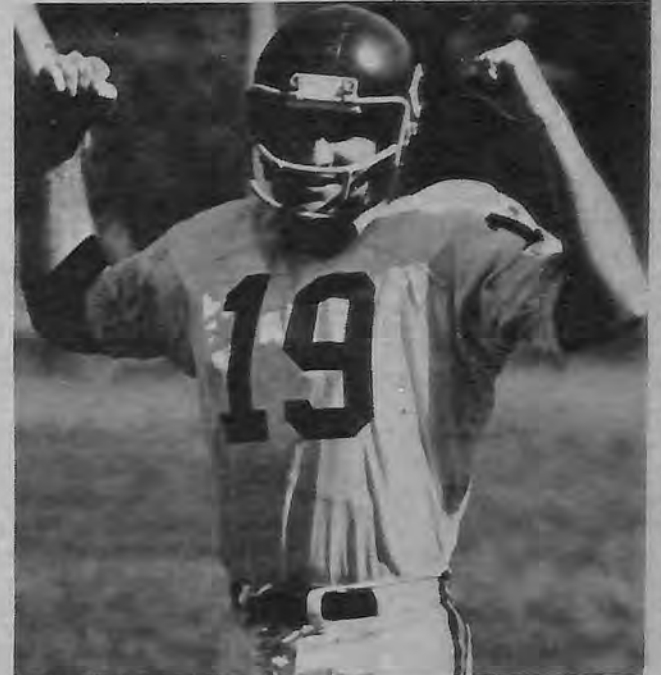
His direction of the offense and his passing have been consistently sharp in camp, and his experience and savvy make him ideal as a backup man as well as a "tutor" for Avellini.

Huff In Running

That leaves Huff's situation as the most intriguing among the quarterbacks. Barring a serious preseason injury to Avellini — in that event, even Carter would expect Huff to be jumped back to the regular's role he held most of last season — Gary figures to remain No. 3 unless he's traded. He reportedly is unsigned going into his option year.

At this point, Huff has more refined passing techniques than Avellini and a good head for the game. But Avellini simply is sturdier physically and more aggressive personally. He makes things happen.

While Huff frequently has moved the offense well, getting into the end zone has been a problem for him. The Bears scored 101 of their 191-point total last season during the 4 1/2 games in which Avellini was at the controls.



Former Brigham Young athlete Virgil gets set over center during a Bears workout. Carter threw 50 touchdowns as a collegian. (Photo by Bill Smith)

One rap against Avellini by scouts, after he was left until the sixth round of the 1975 collegiate draft, is that he didn't have quick feet. That appeared to be a valid criticism in his early starts, but he eventually showed enough nimbleness — particularly in his final game — to set up on time and evade rushers.

Tagge

At this writing, the Bears still were carrying a fourth quarterback, ex-Packer regular Jerry Tagge, who signed as a free agent. But Pardee was having a hard time squeezing in much work for him.



Bob Avellini calls out signals. (Photo by Bill Smith)

Pre-Season 1976 - Game 2

Chicago Bears at Seattle Seahawks

August 7, 1976 9:00 p.m. CDT

Joe Albi Stadium, Spokane Wash.

The pre-season began on a positive note for the Chicago Bears last Saturday in Denver with a 15-14 win over the Broncos. Seattle played its first-ever National Football League game the next day at home, losing to San Francisco 27-20.

This Saturday's encounter with the Seahawks will be the Bears' first game in Spokane when the two teams tangle at Joe Albi Stadium.

The Seahawks enter their initial season with "controlled optimism," according to head coach Jack Patera, the 13-year NFL assistant coach.

Twenty-five collegiate draft choices, 38 players attained in the veteran allocation and an assortment of free agents forms the Seahawks first-year roster.

"We have to control our optimism," says Patera. "We must remember that while we feel our collegiate draft was very successful, the reason we have 38 veterans is that other teams

thought them expendable."

In the collegiate draft, the Seahawks selected Notre Dame's giant defensive tackle Steve Niehaus on the first round and Florida's gifted linebacker Sammy Green on the second.

"Niehaus obviously gives us more quality in the defensive line. As a rookie, however, he may not perform as well as he and the spectators might like," Patera said. "He's mature enough to know he will get both credit and criticism he doesn't deserve."

Green (6-2, 228) led Florida in tackles with 202 last season and was credited with six sacks, forced four fumbles and recovered one.

"Many people around the league have told us that Sammy may have been the best pick of the entire draft," Patera said.

"Normally an NFL team figures that your first, second and third draft choices have a good chance to make the team," Patera said. "We'd

probably say that about our first seven picks. In fact, you can figure that there will be more than seven rookies making this team."

The Seahawks also figure to strengthen themselves through acquisition of players waived by other NFC teams. The Seahawks have first choice on players waived by NFC teams.

But back to the controlled optimism.

"I love to shuffle the linebackers' names on paper," Patera said. "They look so good. The best quality on the team is most likely at linebacker. We feel we can be pretty strong at that position," said the former linebacker Patera.

The Seattle coach starts with the likes of veteran all-Pro Mike Curtis from Baltimore, who Patera says is "probably the premiere middle linebacker in the league."

Ken Geddes has been a three-year starter for the Los Angeles Rams and Don Hansen of Atlanta, Ed Bradley of Pittsburgh and Ken Hutcherson from Green Bay give the Seahawks a solid nucleus.

Add draft choices Green and Randy Cofield (6-3, 215, Florida State) and free agent Gordon Riegel (6-5, 230, Stanford) and you can see Patera's reason for optimism.

On offense, Patera admits, the Seahawks could use some added firepower. "It is quite obvious that we don't have a proven corps of running backs," Patera said. "It is in that area in which we will continue to try and better ourselves."

Baltimore's Bill Olds and Kerry Marbury, formerly with the CFL, have the most playing experience. Eight quarterbacks are in the Seahawks picture going into the season. Gary Keithley and Neil Graff from St. Louis and New England, respectively, are the veterans acquired in the allocation.

In the offensive line, Patera counts on help from veteran Miami star Norm Evans. Along with Evans the Seahawks picked up Cleveland's John Demarie, who can play any line position; San Francisco guard Bob Penchion; Atlanta tackle Nick Bebout and Houston center Fred Hoaglin among others.

The top receivers are free agent signee Ahmad Rashad, formerly with the St. Louis Cardinals and Buffalo Bills; Sam McCullum; Bob Picard and Don Clune.

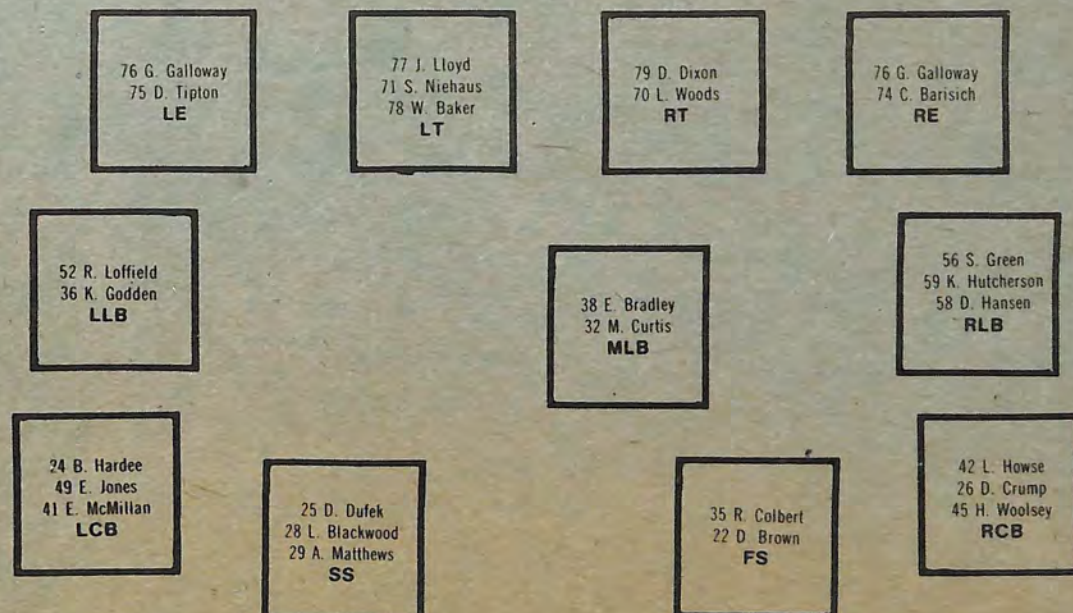
After the Bears' first game Walter Payton and Roger Stillwell were both nursing left knee bruises. Four Bears did not play at all against Denver: Bob Newton (ankle), Ed Strickland (leg), Craig Clemons (toe) and Greg Latta (groin). The status of all six will be decided throughout the week.

Against the Broncos, Chicago controlled the ball for 22 1/2 minutes during the first half while holding Denver to just 50 total yards. Three game balls were awarded following the game to: Johnny Musso, and coaches Jack Pardee (defense) and Ray Callahan (offense).

Bear Offense



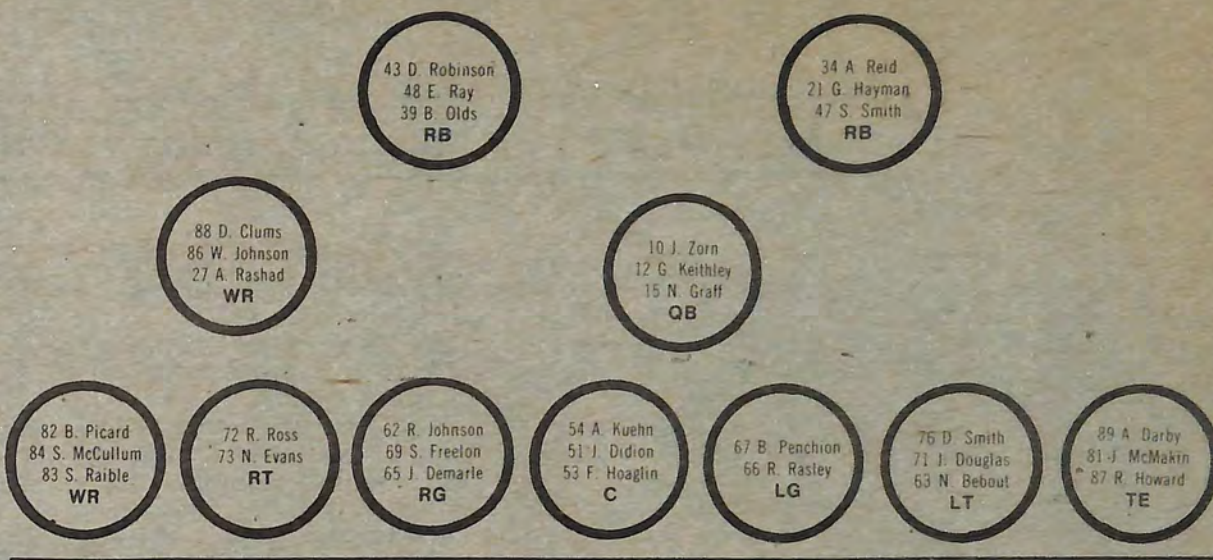
Seahawk Defense



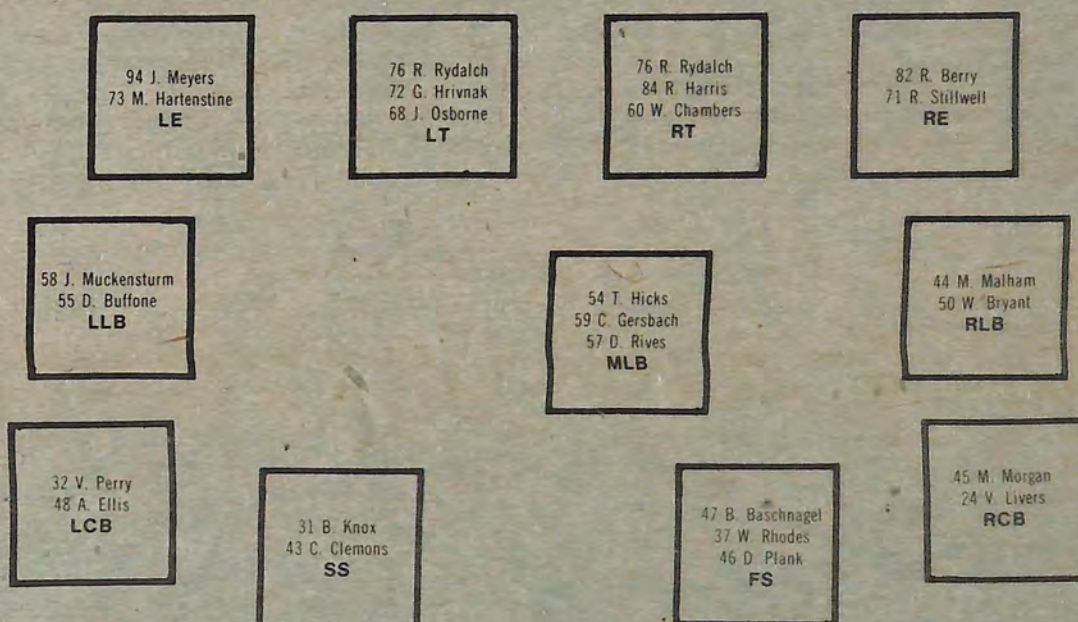
Numerically Bears

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	AGE	YR.	COLLEGE
7	Avellini, Bob	QB	6-2	212	23	2	Maryland
8	Strickland, Ed	K	6-0	200	28	1	Livingston St.
9	Carter, Virg	QB	6-1	185	30	7	Brigham Young
14	Tagge, Jerry	QB	6-2	220	26	4	Nebraska
15	Danmeier, Rick	K	5-11	214	24	1	Sioux Falls Col.
16	Thomas, Bob	K	5-10	182	24	2	Notre Dame
17	Beckman, Witt	WR	6-3	200	24	R	Miami (Fla.)
19	Huff, Gary	QB	6-1	194	25	4	Florida St.
20	Adamle, Mike	RB	5-9	199	26	6	Northwestern
22	Musso, Johnny	RB	5-11	205	26	2	Alabama
23	Evans, Gary	CB	6-0	181	21	R	No. E. Missouri
24	Livers, Virgil	CB-KR	5-8	178	24	2	W. Kentucky
25	Shanklin, Ron	WR	6-1	180	28	7	N. Texas St.
26	Tryon, Jeff	CB	6-1	185	22	R	Boise State
27	Grim, Bob	WR	6-0	183	31	10	Oregon State
30	O'Leary, John	RB	6-0	207	22	R	Nebraska
31	Knox, Bill	S	5-9	193	25	3	Purdue
32	Perry, Vernon	S	6-2	202	22	R	Jackson St.
34	Payton, Walter	RB-P	5-10	211	22	2	Jackson St.
35	Harper, Roland	RB	5-11	201	23	2	Louisiana Tech
36	Donchez, Tom	RB	6-2	216	24	2	Penn. State
37	Rhodes, Wayne	CB	6-1	180	22	R	Alabama
38	Henson, Champ	RB	6-3	240	23	2	Ohio State
39	Studer, Steve	C	6-1	240	23	R	Bowling Green
43	Clemons, Craig	S	5-11	195	27	5	Iowa
44	Malham, Mickey	LB	6-2	210	23	R	Arkansas St.
45	Morgan, Mike	S	6-1	190	22	R	Washburn (Kan.)
46	Plank, Doug	S	5-11	197	23	2	Ohio State
47	Baschnagel, Brian	WR	6-0	192	22	R	Ohio State
48	Ellis, Allan	CB	5-10	184	25	4	UCLA
49	Kasowski, Dale	RB	6-2	208	22	R	North Dakota
50	Bryant, Waymond	LB	6-3	232	24	3	Tennessee St.
51	Neal, Dan	C	6-4	240	27	4	Kentucky
52	Cousino, Brad	LB	6-0	219	23	2	Miami (Ohio)
53	Peiffer, Dan	C	6-3	252	25	2	S.E. Missouri
54	Hicks, Tom	LB	6-4	237	23	1	Illinois
55	Buffone, Doug	LB	6-2	226	32	11	Louisville
57	Rives, Don	LB	6-2	235	25	3	Texas Tech
58	Muckensturm, Jerry	LB	6-4	220	22	R	Arkansas State
59	Gersbach, Carl	LB	6-1	230	29	7	W. Chester St.
60	Chambers, Wally	DT	6-6	260	25	4	Eastern Kentucky
62	Jiggetts, Dan	T	6-4	256	22	R	Harvard
63	Nordquist, Mark	G-C	6-4	236	30	9	Pacific
65	Jackson, Noah	G	6-2	263	25	2	Tampa
68	Osborne, Jim	DT	6-3	254	27	5	Southern
69	Sorey, Revie	G	6-2	260	22	2	Illinois
70	Lick, Dennis	T	6-3	256	22	R	Wisconsin
71	Stillwell, Roger	DT	6-5	256	24	2	Stanford
72	Hrivnak, Gary	DE	6-5	254	25	4	Purdue
73	Hartenstine, Mike	DE	6-3	247	23	2	Penn. State
75	Sevy, Jeff	T	6-5	259	25	2	California
76	Rydalch, Ron	DT	6-4	260	24	2	Utah
78	Newton, Bob	G	6-4	260	27	6	Nebraska
79	Antoine, Lionel	T	6-6	258	26	5	S. Illinois
80	Rather, Bo	WR	6-1	183	25	4	Michigan
81	Butler, Gary	TE	6-3	235	25	4	Rice
82	Berry, Royce	DE	6-3	250	30	8	Houston
83	Parker, Ron	TE	6-2	213	22	R	TCU
84	Harris, Richard	DE	6-5	258	28	6	Grambling
85	Schubert, Steve	WR	5-10	185	25	3	Massachusetts
86	Parsons, Bob	TE-P	6-5	234	26	5	Penn. State
88	Latta, Greg	TE	6-3	226	23	2	Morgan State
89	Andersen, Norm	WR	5-11	164	23	R	UCLA
90	Hoban, Bill	DE	6-4	236	23	R	Michigan
91	Hovey, Jim	LB	6-4	222	23	1	Kentucky
94	Meyers, Jerry	DT	6-4	245	22	R	No. Illinois
95	Moore, Ivy	WR	6-3	187	23	R	So. Illinois

Seahawk Offense



Bears Defense



Seahawks

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Yr.	College
3	Boyd, Skip	P	6-1	205	23	1	Washington
4	Bitterlich, Don	K	5-7	166	22	R	Temple
5	Engles, Rick	P	5-10	170	21	R	Tulsa
10	Zorn, Jim	QB	6-2	200	23	1	Cal. Poly (Pomona)
12	Keithley, Gary	QB	6-3	215	25	4	Texas El Paso
15	Graff, Neil	QB	6-3	200	26	3	Wisconsin
16	Myer, Steve	QB	6-2	180	22	R	New Mexico
21	Hayman, Gary	RB	6-1	202	24	3	Penn. St.
22	Brown, Dave	FB	6-1	190	23	2	Michigan
23	Devin, Jerry	CB	5-11	182	25	2	Morris Brown
24	Hardee, Billy	CB	6-1	184	21	R	UPI
25	Dufek, Don	S	6-0	195	22	R	Michigan
26	Crump, Dwayne	CB	5-11	180	25	4	Fresno St.
27	Rashad, Ahmad	WR	6-2	200	26	4	Oregon
28	Blackwood, Lyle	SE	6-0	180	25	4	Texas Christian
29	Matthews, Al	SS	5-11	190	28	7	Texas A&I
32	Curtis, Mike	LB	6-2	232	33	12	Duke
33	Bolton, Andrew	RB	6-1	205	22	R	Fisk
34	Reid, Andy	RB	6-0	194	22	R	Georgia
35	Colbert, Randy	FB	5-9	165	22	2	Lamar
36	Godden, Ken	LB	6-3	235	28	6	Nebraska
38	Bradley, Ed	LB	6-2	239	26	4	Wake Forest
34	Olds, Bill	RB	6-1	222	25	4	Nebraska
40	Bates, Larry	RB	6-1	218	22	R	Miami
41	McMillan, Eddie	CB	6-0	190	24	4	Florida St.
42	Howse, Larry	CB	6-1	195	25	1	Tennessee St.
43	Robinson, Darwin	RB	6-1	200	24	1	Dakota St.
44	Dixon, Alan	FB	6-0	206	25	R	Harding
45	Woolsey, Rolly	CB	6-1	182	22	2	Boise St.
46	Blinks, Jarvis	CB	6-0	184	21	R	Northwestern St.
47	Smith, Sherman	RB	6-4	217	21	R	Miami (Ohio)
48	Ray, Eddie	WR	6-2	230	29	6	Louisiana St.
49	Jones, Ernie	CB	6-3	180	23	R	Miami
51	Didion, John	C	6-4	255	28	7	Oregon St.
52	Cotfield, Randy	LB	6-3	215	22	R	Florida St.
53	Hoaglin, Fred	C	6-4	250	32	11	Pittsburgh
54	Kuehn, Art	C	6-3	270	23	R	UCLA
56	Green, Sammy	LB	6-2	228	21	R	Florida
58	Hansen, Don	LB	6-2	228	31	10	Illinois
59	Hutcherson, Ken	LB	6-0	223	24	2	Livingston
62	Johnson, Randy	G	6-2	250	23	R	Georgia
63	Bebout, Nick	T	6-5	260	26	4	Wyoming
64	Jelley, Gordon	T	6-5	245	22	5	Utah
65	Demarle, John	G	6-3	248	30	10	Louisiana St.
66	Rasley, Rocky	G	6-3	255	29	7	Oregon St.
67	Penchion, Bob	G	6-6	252	26	5	Alcorn A&M
69	Freelon, Solomon	G	6-3	246	25	4	Grambling
70	Woods, Larry	DT	6-6	270	28	7	Tennessee St.
71	Niehaus, Steve	DT	6-4	270	21	R	Notre Dame
72	Ross, Robin	T	6-5	251	21	R	Washington St.
73	Evans, Norm	T	6-5	250	33	12	Texas Christian
74	Barisich, Carl	DT	6-4	255	25	4	Princeton
75	Tipton, Dave	DE	6-6	246	27	6	Stanford
76	Smith, Dan	T	6-3	257	23	R	Washington St.
77	Galloway, G. G.	DE	6-4	238	22	R	Clemson
78	Baker, Wayne	DT	6-6	269	23	2	Brigham Young
79	Dixon, Dick	DT	6-6	240	22	R	Arkansas St.
80	Williams, Dave	WR	6-3	215	30	8	Washington
81	McMakin, John	TE	6-3	225	25	5	Clemson
82	Picard, Bob	WR	6-3	205	26	4	E. Washington
83	Raible, Steve	WR	6-2	195	27	R	Georgia Tech
84	McCullum, Sam	WR	6-2	203	23	3	Montana St.
85	Waddell, Charles	TE	6-5	233	23	1	North Carolina
86	Johnson, Wayne	WR	5-11	175	22	R	Oregon
87	Howard, Ron	TE	6-4	225	25	3	Seattle
88	Clums, Don	WR	6-3	195	24	3	Pennsylvania
89	Darby, Alvis	TE	6-5	216	21	R	Florida
90	Lide, Bill	WR	5-11	180	26	1	Johnson Smith
94	Shipp, Larry	WR	6-3	181	22	R	Louisiana St.

SPECIALISTS SEAHAWKS

Punter: 5 R. Engles, 3 S. Boyd
Kicker: 4 D. Bitterlich
Kickoff: 4 D. Bitterlich
Holder: 10 J. Zorn
Punt Return: 28 L. Blackwood, 25 D. Dufek
 22 D. Brown, 35 R. Colbert
Kick Return: 84 S. McCullum, 82 B. Picard
 47 S. Smith, 27 A. Rashad, 21 G. Hayman

BEARS

Punter: 86 Bob Parsons, 34 Walter Payton
Kicker: 16 Bob Thomas, 15 Rick Danmeier
Kickoff: 16 Bob Thomas, 15 Rick Danmeier
Holder: 9 Virg Carter, 19 Gary Huff
Punt Return: 24 Virgil Livers, 47 Brian Baschnagel
Kickoff Return: 34 Walter Payton, 47 Brian Baschnagel
Punt Center: 51 Dan Neal, 53 Dan Peiffer
Kick Center: 51 Dan Neal, 53 Dan Peiffer

College All-Star Game Is It Worth It?



Coaches Disagree On Merits Of Annual Exhibition

Can it really be that time of year again when the image of professional football crowds the screens of a million or more home TV sets? When you can't tell the superstars without a scorecard? And when you never know what "Mean Joe" or "Too Tall" will do to "Roger the Dodger" or "Fearless Fran"?

Yes, pro football fans, it is that time of year again, the outset of the 57th season of the controlled violence you've come to know and love as the National Football League.

Should any of you skeptics require proof positive, consider the recent 43rd renewal of the Chicago All-Star game.

The All-Star game is to pro football what the first presidential primary is to Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan or President Ford — an event that doesn't mean an awful lot in the long run, but is a nice way to get the ball rolling, so to speak.

It is a game which has no effect on the outcome of the season ahead, yet it does have its meanings, particularly to the campus heroes involved.

After all, nobody, not even the Green Bay Packers team of 1963 (the last pro team to be defeated by the All-Stars), seriously entertains the possibility that a thrown together team of clean-cut youths, who just a few months ago played for the glory of dear alma mater, can rise up and defeat the polished superiority of the pro game's reigning masters.

In this case, the Pittsburgh Steelers perpetuated the NFL's now 12-game winning streak with a 24-0 rain-shortened route of the collegians, collected an extra game check, and went their separate way.

Within pro football's establishment there are differences of opinion as to the relative merit of the All-Star game based solely on professional criteria.

Consider that almost every NFL club frees a first-round draft choice during the most important weeks of training camp to travel to the suburban Chicago All-Star camp. There is no choice. If a draftee is signed and chosen for the team he must be sent to the

game.

While training for the game, these highly prized rookies are susceptible to injuries which could hamper their effectiveness for regular season play. When one takes into account the cost of scouting, evaluating and paying a first round draft choice in today's big money pro game, a team comprised of these bonus babies is somewhat akin to the assets of Chase Manhattan.

Most All-Stars return to their respective teams none the worse for wear. Others, like wide receiver Larry Burton of the New Orleans Saints, a first round draft choice and participant in 1975's All-Star game, do not.

Burton reported to the All-Star camp fresh from an impressive college career at Purdue where he doubled as a wideout for the football team and a world class sprinter for the track team. He possessed the gifts of great speed and sure hands.

While practicing for the All-Star game he aggravated a hamstring pull which resulted in a season long ordeal to regain his form. On the whole he was unsuccessful in his attempt to recover sufficiently to contribute to the Saints.

Now-disposed Saints coach John North pointed a finger at the All-Star game.



"This is the kind of situation you can't afford to worry about since you are incapable of controlling it".... Stram

"I knew if Larry pressed himself in the All-Star game he'd pull the hamstring. But what could I do? We had to let him go. Even after he was injured we couldn't bring him back for treatment. He had to stay in Chicago," North grumbled.

Present Saints coach Hank Stram offers a contrasting view. Even though Stram had to part with three draftees — offensive lineman Ed Bauer of Notre Dame

and flashy running backs Chuck Muncie of California and Tony Galbreath of Missouri — he speaks in support of the game.

"On the positive side you have to feel a sentimental attachment to the All-Star game," Stram said. "It is a great compliment to the players to be chosen. But really, this is the kind of situation you can't afford to worry about since you are incapable of controlling it. Your time is better spent worrying about the things which are within your ability to influence."

At least one highly placed NFL executive feels that top players belong with their own team where they can be properly trained.

"I don't like the idea of these fellows being out of our own camp," the exec commented after being assured anonymity. "Even though they're top players they still need to get acquainted with our style of play, especially the offensive linemen. Just think about the time and money we've got tied up in these people and you can understand our concern."

But the All-Star game is more than just another football game. In many respects it transcends the limits of discussion on a pure football level. The All-Star game is also a fund raising event for the Chicago Tribune Charities, and as

such has civic impact as well.

To the elderly, the sick, the homeless and the needy of the Chicago area, the All-Star game is a Godsend of considerable proportions.

Originally planned as an event to highlight the Chicago World's Fair of 1934, the All-Star game through Tribune Charities has contributed nearly \$4 million to charity over the years. In the early years, it was the collegians who drew the crowds, not the



professionals. The campus heroes lent a helping hand to the pro game and the favor is still being returned.

One individual convinced of the value of the game is Luke Carroll, vice president and executive director of the Chicago Tribune Charities.

"I can't help but feel that the game is worth it for the parties involved," Carroll commented. "The All-Star game is but one function of the Tribune Charities, but it is the most well publicized."

Carroll explained that by contract the NFL must provide the Super Bowl Champions and the selected college all-stars. In effect, the NFL is a partner in the game.

"In recent years we've run into some problems with unsigned players and their agents," Carroll said. "The agents try to boost the value of their clients beyond what their actual value to a team might be. If an agent says his client is worth \$100,000 he wants us to pay insurance benefits in that amount. It places us in a difficult position if the pro team is only offering to pay the player half that much."

Not all problems are with agents and unsigned players. When the 1974 All-Star game was cancelled due to the strike of the NFL Players Association, the

players and the owners agreed to pick up the \$212,000 which would have gone to charity. The owners paid their half, but the players?

"To this day we have received only \$22,000 of the players' commitment," Carroll noted, which is far short of the \$106,000 agreed to.

In the final analysis the value of the All-Star game depends on whose cause you're siding with.

For the NFL executive, the game is basically bad business, competition wise. It may be a classic, but the All-Star game keeps some of your best people out of training camp. Still the game is good for the NFL, public relations wise.

If you're one of the thousands who benefit from the Tribune Charities, you're likely to feel that the game is truly great and should be perpetuated ad infinitum.

But if you're just an everyday pro football fanatic like the rest of us—you were probably rooting for the underdog, wondering what pro football was doing on TV in the middle of July and considering the possibility of having your favorite easychair re-upholstered so you can sit in front of your television set in complete comfort while enjoying every nuance of the game for the next 20 odd weekends.



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Fran Spielman

- A Bear Report Regular -

Lick and Baschnagel -- Rookies Ready to Prove

A luxury car. A lakefront condominium. A brand new wardrobe. A brand new life. The good life. A far cry from that of your everyday Joe College at a big-time university. Especially for Dennis Lick.

Not that Lick didn't live college life at the University of Wisconsin to its fullest — with all the fame and attention any college football all-American could ask for. It's just that — all trophies, awards, and first team all-everythings aside — college football players simply do not earn any money for their troubles. Professional football players do.

And ever since the Chicago Bears made him their number one draft choice, Dennis Lick has been enjoying his transition to "the good life."

The Pro Challenge

"That's what scares me most about the college-pro transition," Lick said, leaning his 6'4", 265 LB. frame against a fence outside the College All-Stars' Dyché Stadium locker room, instead of plowing it into the solid wall of muscle posed by a typical 6'7", 290 lb. defensive lineman.

"Here — I haven't even made the team, and yet, right after the draft was over, I went and stuck my neck out — buying a new car, new

clothes, the condominium on the lake. And literally spending more money than I've ever seen in my life."

Not that Dennis Lick has too many doubts about his ability to make the team, or contribute significantly to make the Chicago Bears a better football team.

"It's just that there's always that element of doubt in your mind, whenever you move onto something new," Lick said. "Which keeps you thinking, 'nothing is a sure thing'."

"And if, by chance, I don't make the team," he said, "I shudder to think what will happen to that big fat mortgage, and all those bills."

Lick is not verbalizing his fears, just to give his creditors second thoughts. He's just a typical NFL rookie — with rookie doubts, rookie fears, and rookie anxieties — hoping he won't make more than his share of rookie mistakes.

Ara on Rookies

All-star coach Ara Parseghian calls it "period of adjustment." A nursery school student goes through it when he enters his first public school class. A high school senior goes through it when he starts packing his trunk for college. A 50-year old business executive goes through it when he transfers jobs.

And a college football player goes through it when he moves on to the pros. All-American or not.

"It would be abnormal if they didn't go through it," Parseghian said. "Be it in athletics, academics, business, or any other world you want to talk about, changes bring out the doubts and fears in all of us. There's simply no way of knowing you can do something if you've never gone through it before."

"It takes a very special athlete and a very special individual to make it in the big time world of professional football," the former Notre Dame coach said.

"You must have the proper athletic ability. But you also need a good mental attitude, emotional involvement, and physical conditioning before you can make the transition successfully."

"But once you find a rookie who has the right combination of abilities," Parseghian said, "it won't be long before he gains the experience he needs to make his rookie anxieties melt away."

After nearly a month as Dennis Lick's first official pro coach, Parseghian thinks the Bears number one draft choice has the proper mix of size, speed, strength and quickness to move mountains — and defensive obstacles for Chicago running backs Walter Payton, Mike Adamle, and Roland Harper.

Baschnagel to Adjust

For the Bears' third round draft choice, the "period of adjustment" might last a little longer.

In a move that Brian Baschnagel admits will set him back "at least four years in ability, and maybe eight years in confidence," Bears coach

Jack Pardee has slated the former Ohio State wingback as a defensive back or safety — positions he hasn't even dreamed about since the old one-platoon days back in high school.

And, for a guy who had his doubts if or when he'd even be drafted at all, that's quite an adjustment.

"Let's face it," Baschnagel said, "At Ohio State, I played an obscure role at best. I didn't run the ball that much. I didn't catch the ball that often. The only thing I did with any frequency at all was block for Archie (Griffin) and Pete (Johnson)."



"So when it came to the draft," he said, "I just didn't know whether any of the pro teams even knew what I could do."

Obviously, the Bears knew plenty. Enough to make the former Ohio State utility man their next pick in the draft, after nabbing Lick for the offensive line. Which made Brian Baschnagel a very happy rookie.

A Chance to Prove

"It's hard to describe all the feelings that were running through my head when I heard about it," Baschnagel said. "I was shocked, thrilled, and grateful to Chicago for having the confidence in me to make me one of their top picks."

"And somehow, knowing they felt that way has given me the courage and the momentum to go right to camp and show everyone what I knew I could do all along, but never really got the chance."

For guys like Dennis Lick and Brian Baschnagel, that extra dab of emotional momentum will probably be all that's needed to shed the rookie jitters. And pay all the rookie bills.

Fran Spielman is a news and sports reporter for Chicago's WIND Radio.



Dennis Lick (above) and Brian Baschnagel (at right) were the Bears top two draft picks in 1976. Lick is pictured during his first Bears practice July 24; Baschnagel is seen at the College All-Star game the night before. (Photos by Bill Smith)

ANSWERS TO SUPER SPORTS QUIZ NUMBER THREE

1. b — Marek and Lick have been together at Chicago's St. Rita and the University of Wisconsin.

2. d — Rip Hawkins was a 2nd round pick ahead of Francis.

3. b — And if he keeps it up, his career may be shorter than he thinks!

4. a — Hubbard made the football Hall in 1963 and the baseball Hall in '76.

5. c — Steve Odóm assumed that portfolio.

6. c — Nebraska's John O'Leary scored on the Bumerooski against Missouri. John took a hand-off from halfback Tony Davis (between his legs) while in a role as a punt blocker, hid the ball while his teammates and opponents all went right, and then casually sauntered to his left for a long touchdown. The closest pursuer was in St. Louis when he crossed the goal line.

7. d — Kelvin Kirk, a wide receiver from Dayton, was taken on the last round by the Steelers.

8. d — Hornung's Notre Dame squad went 2-8 in 1956.

9. True. On August 16, the Cardinals and Chargers will play in Tokyo. Both teams should end up taking baths, and we don't mean financial.

10. c — Terry Bradshaw did it, but he won't be singing "Oh Lonesome Me" when Elvin Bethea gets ahold of him.

NOTE TO READERS: If you have a favorite pro football question (or even one of your un-favorites) that you think might be good enough to use in this space, let us take a look at it. Send the tester to: Tim Sullivan, c/o SUPERQUIZZERS, 1555 Water Street, Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481.

New NFL Rule Changes for 1976

Did you notice two four-foot high clocks in each end zone last Saturday when the Bears met Denver? No, the NBA wasn't part of the halftime activities, the clocks are included in the National Football League rule changes for 1976; the new rules are listed below, please take note:

****Two 30-second time clocks will be placed in the end zones so fans can see how long it takes the offense to put the ball in play. The clocks are four feet high, and six feet wide. The numbers are three feet high. The clocks will be the official timing device while the ball is in play, backed-up by the Field Judge's watch in case of malfunction.**

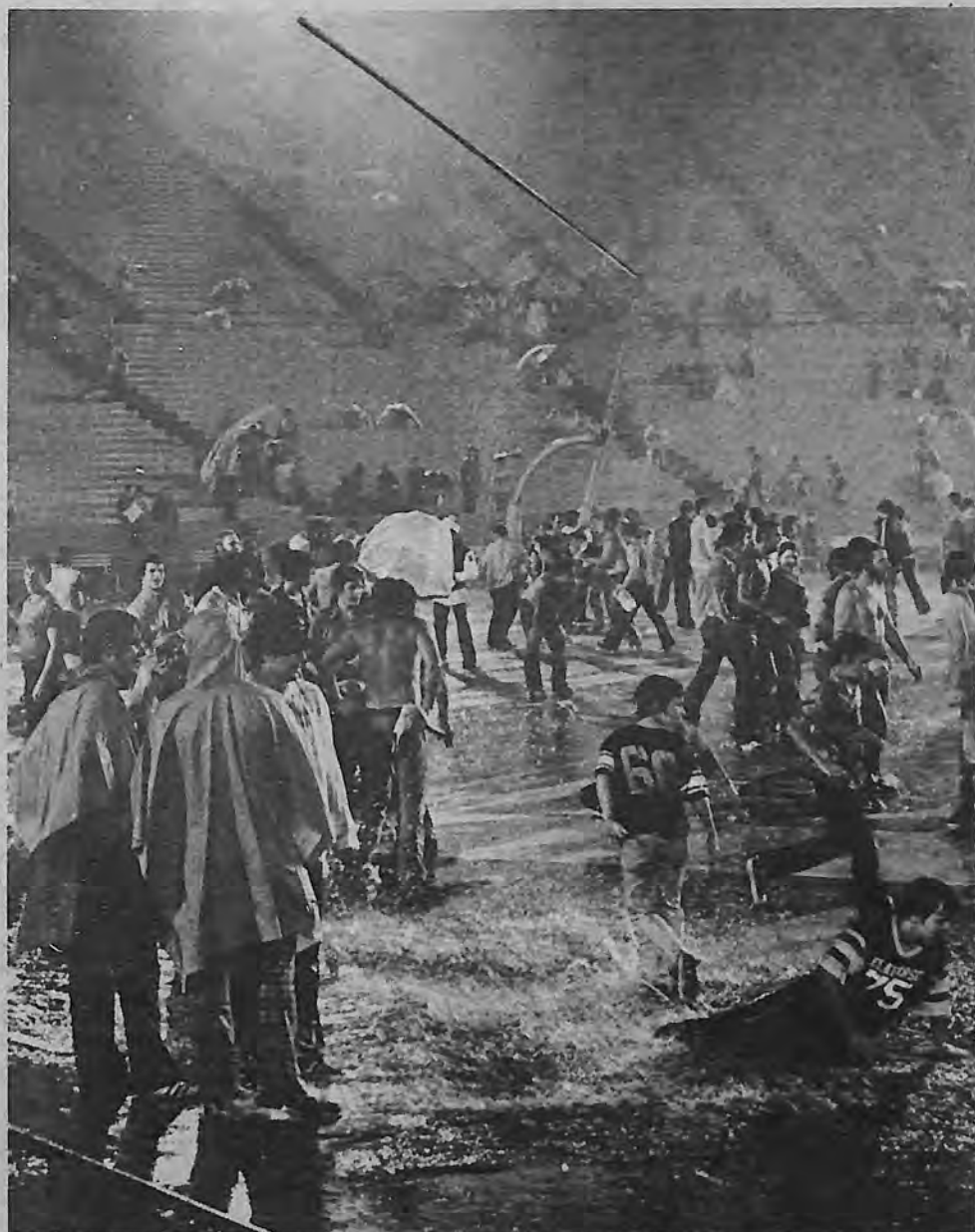
****Official coin toss is moved up to three minutes before kickoff with the referee and team captains present. Toss will be live on the referee's microphone so fans can hear the dialogue. (Toss was previously 30 minutes before the kickoff).**

****Paint-on stripe eliminated from the football used in late-starting games and night contests.**

****All games must be played to conclusion because of effect early termination might have on tie-breaking procedures used to determine playoff participants and sites.**

****Offensive team is given the option of accepting the yardage on a foul by the defense on an aborted or unsuccessful kick try either on the subsequent try or on the ensuing kickoff. Thus, eliminating the potential of a 'cheap shot' by the defense. On successful tries, foul yardage will be accessed on the ensuing kickoff.**

****Defensive players are prohibited from using their hands on a teammate to gain extra leverage in an attempt to block a kick. This broadens the rule that already prohibits the defense from 'stacking' players in an attempt to block a kick.**



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE . . . this was Soldier Field as it appeared July 23 after the College All-Stars and the Pittsburgh Steelers had left the field. Hundreds of fans oozed onto the unplayable surface to help add to the game's unprecedented finish. (Photo by Bill Smith)

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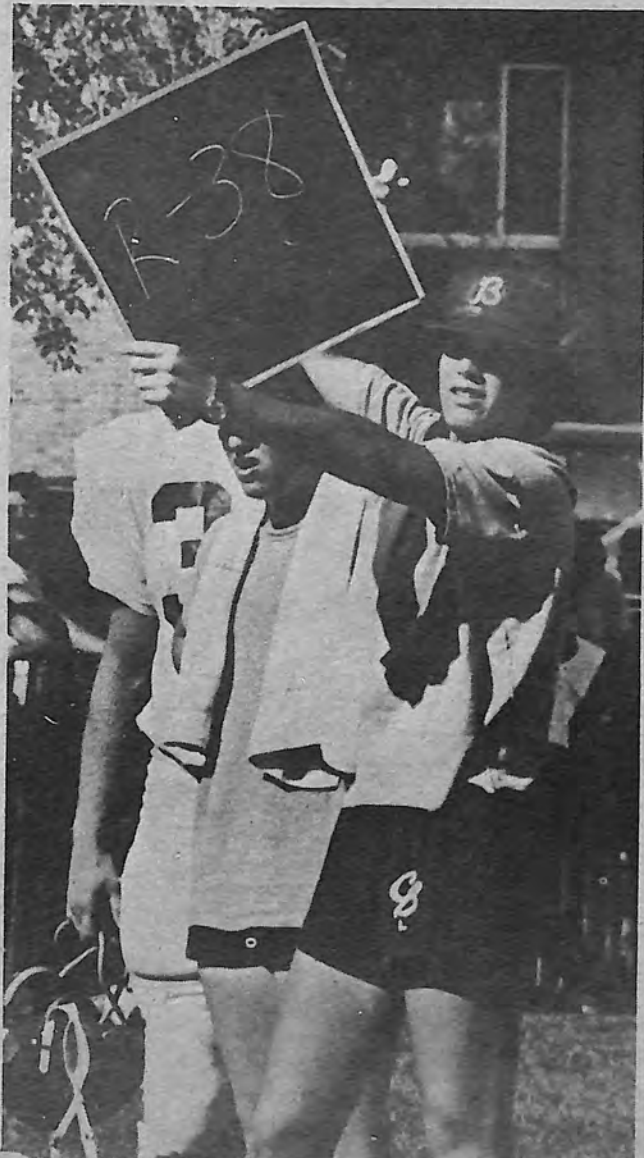


Getting on top of things In order to better view the Bears during a Lake Forest workout, local fans use what's available. Above, a van proves relaxing and, to the right, a nearby fire escape serves a different purpose.

'Lookin' At The Bears

The Chicago Bear players are the featured stars throughout the year in the Bear Report, but this week we're showing some of those who are watching Chicago's best at work.

All Photos on Page by Bill Smith



"That's not in our playbook," is what Lee Stern (right) seems to be gesturing during a Bears practice. Stern, owner of the Chicago Sting soccer team, looks on with Bears general manager Jim Finks (middle) and his assistant Bill McGrane. Holding up the chalk board is Finks' nephew John.



Kevin Lamb

- A Bear Report Regular -

Bear Wide Receivers Catching On

In the eighth decade after Teddy Roosevelt suggested a football could be moved more safely by being thrown, the Bears are seeing how the forward pass is even more effective when it's caught.

A year ago the Bears had more people shagging balls than catching them. "We would just about have to stage a completion in slow motion," coach Jack Pardee recalled.

There were a few wide receivers who could catch footballs and run at the same time. At least, they could have if they had been able to run.



Bears' receivers coach Jerry Stoltz is smiling these days. The former Toledo quarterback is confident that when the ball is thrown in the Bears direction . . .

Between the talent gap and injuries at the position, Pardee had to ask a third-string quarterback named Bob Avellini to run patterns for a few days.

Holding On

So Pardee was delighted when Witt Beckman, Norm Andersen and Ivy Moore showed up this summer with hands that kept passes from land-

ing. "There aren't so many balls hitting the ground now," he said the week the Bears began their Lake Forest training camp. "These guys are all fighting for the ball."

Pardee would be even more delighted if Ron Shanklin were healthy enough to joust with defensive backs on a regular basis. Shanklin, whose left knee injury kept him out of every game last year, is still recovering from last December's cartilage surgery.

The knee is strong enough now to go out for the mail, to climb a flight of stairs, even to chase after a bus. But he can only run so many pass patterns before it becomes tired. And with fatigue comes fluid.

"They tell me that's normal," Shanklin says. The muscles around his knee just need to be a little stronger. So while his teammates romp through post patterns and quick outs, Shanklin is lifting weights, more of them than he ever has.

"I just want to be out in my world," he says. "I feel like a kid with the chicken pox looking out the window and wanting to be playing with the other kids."

Rather Can Run

Teaming with Bo Rather, Shanklin would give the Bears as good a pair of wide receivers as anyone in the Central Division. Rather, who can outrun cornerbacks, led the Bears with 39 catches last season.

Shanklin is more the type of receiver who sneaks between defenders for the tough third-and-long catch. He never caught fewer than 30 passes a season for the Steelers until they replaced him with Lynn Swann in 1974, his fifth year.

When Rather caught a touchdown pass in practice last week, spearing the ball with his fingertips in mid-sprint, the defender was Brian Baschnagel. Which says how confident the Bears are about their receiving depth, despite the lingering uncertainty about Shanklin's knee. Baschnagel was a receiver at Ohio State last year and two weeks ago Pardee expected him to stay at that position with the Bears.

"There's going to be a good fight for jobs with our receiving corps as it is," Pardee said.

Besides the three rookies, the Bears have Bob Grim and Steve Schubert back from last

year's team, both catching more consistently than they did a year ago.

Need Experience

Pardee knows one thing about Grim and Schubert that he doesn't know about Beckman, Andersen and Moore. He has seen them catch passes against players with different colored uniforms.

"We'll still have to see how the young guys will be when the heat is on, when they're going against a cornerback who hits them in the nose and yells at them, 'Hey, you. Come back out here if you want to, chump,'" Shanklin said. "But they're as good as any young group of receivers I've seen."

Beckman was drafted by the Bears in the 16th round in 1975, but he spent last year with Jacksonville in the World Football League. "I learned a lot there," he said.

Andersen, drafted in the 11th round from UCLA, is similar to Beckman in that both have only moderate speed but know how to coax defensive backs into making confused turns in the wrong direction.

Moore, a free agent from Southern Illinois, seems to be the fastest of the three, although perhaps the least consistent. "He's a big play type of guy and he has excellent hands," receiver coach Jerry Stoltz said.

Only three or four of the seven receivers will spend the season with the Bears. A shame for the ones who will disappear. But for Avellini it means he can count on lofting the ball downfield without having to chase the ball himself.

Kevin Lamb is a sports writer for the Chicago Daily News.



. . .that it will be caught, as shown here by fourth-year pro Bo Rather. (Photos by Bill Smith)



NFL Pre-Season Schedule

(All Times P.M. Local)

FIRST WEEKEND

JULY:

23	Pittsburgh 24, All Stars 0
24	Denver 10, Detroit 7
31	Pittsburgh 24, N. Orleans 14
31	Detroit 20, Buffalo 17
31	Washington 17, Atlanta 10
31	Los Angeles 26, Tampa 3
31	Miami 16, Minnesota 8
31	Baltimore 21, Cleveland 0
31	Oakland 17, Dallas 14
31	San Diego 20, Philadelphia 7
31	St. Louis 13, New York Jets 12
31	Chicago 15, Denver 14
31	Cincinnati 23, Green Bay 17

AUGUST:

1	San Francisco 27, Seattle 20
1	New England 13, New York Giants 7 (OT)
2	Houston at Kansas City, Kansas City 7:30

SECOND WEEKEND

AUGUST:

6	Washington at Baltimore, Baltimore 8:00
6	San Diego vs. New England, Norman, Okla. 7:00
7	Dallas at Los Angeles, L. A. (CBS) 7:00
7	Buffalo at Cincinnati, Cincinnati 8:00
7	Minn. at Kansas City, Kansas City 7:30
7	St. Louis vs. Oakland, Phoenix 8:30
7	Cleveland vs. Atlanta, Stillwater, Okla. 3:00
7	New Orleans at Houston, Houston 8:00
7	Tampa Bay vs. G. B., Milw. 7:00
7	Chicago vs. Seattle, Spokane 7:00
8	Denver at San Francisco, San Fran. 1:00
8	Miami at Detroit, Pontiac, Mich. 1:00
9	Pitts. at Philadelphia, Philadelphia 8:00
9	N. Y. Giants at N. Y. Jets, Yankee Stad. 8:00

THIRD WEEKEND

AUGUST:

13	N. Orleans at Buffalo, Buffalo 7:30
13	Oakland at N. Y. Jets, Yankee Stadium 8:00
14	L. A. at Seattle, Seattle 7:30
14	Phil. at Miami, Miami 8:00
14	Pittsburgh at Wash., Wash. (NBC) 9:00
14	Detroit at Cincinnati 8:00
14	Denver at Dallas, Dallas 8:00
14	N. Y. Giants at Houston, Houston 8:00
14	Tampa Bay vs. Atlanta, Jacksonville, Fla. 8:00
14	Baltimore at Chicago, Chicago 8:00
15	Kansas City at San Fran., San Fran. 1:00
15	G. B. at New England, Foxboro, Mass. 8:00
16	Minn. at Cleveland, Cleveland 8:00
16	St. Louis vs. S. D., Tokyo, Japan

FOURTH WEEKEND

AUGUST:

20	G. B. at Buffalo, Buffalo 7:30
20	N. Orleans at Baltimore, Baltimore 8:00
20	N. Y. Giants at Pitts., Pittsburgh (ABC) 8:00
21	N. Y. Jets at Houston, Houston 8:00
21	N. England at Atlanta, Atlanta 8:00
21	L. A. at Oakland, Oakland (NBC) 6:00
21	San Francisco vs. San Diego, Honolulu 8:00
21	St. Louis at Chicago, Chicago 8:00
21	Wash. at Kansas City, Kansas City 7:30
21	Seattle at Denver, Denver 8:00
21	Miami at Tampa Bay, Tampa 7:00
22	Cincinnati at Minn., Minnesota (CBS) 12:30
23	Cleveland at Phil., Phil. 8:00
	Dallas vs. Detroit — Date and site to be announced

FIFTH WEEKEND

AUGUST:

28	Pittsburgh at Dallas, Dallas (ABC) 8:00
28	Wash. at N. Y. Jets, Yankee Stad. 8:00
28	Baltimore at Atlanta, Atlanta 8:00
28	Buffalo at L. A., L. A. 7:00
28	Miami at Houston, Houston 8:00
28	Chicago at Tampa Bay, Tampa 8:00
28	Detroit at Kansas City, Kansas City 7:30
28	N. Y. Giants at G. B., G. B. 8:00
28	Philadelphia at Minn., Minn. 8:00
28	Denver at St. Louis, St. Louis 7:00
28	Cincinnati at N. Orleans, N. Orleans 8:00
29	Oakland at San Fran., San Fran. (CBS) 12:30
29	San Diego at Seattle, Seattle 1:00
30	N. Engl. at Cleveland, Cleveland 8:00

SIXTH WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER:

2	Baltimore at Detroit, Pontiac 8:00
3	Cleveland at Buffalo, Buffalo 7:30
3	Chicago at Washington, Wash. 8:00
3	Atlanta vs. Green Bay, Milw. 8:00
3	Kansas City at St. Louis, St. Louis 8:00
4	Miami at N. Orleans, N. Orleans 8:00
4	San Francisco at L. A., Los Angeles 7:00
4	N. Y. Jets at Pitts., Pittsburgh 8:00
4	Seattle at Oakland, Oakland 6:00
4	Houston at Dallas, Dallas (ABC) 8:00
4	N. Y. Giants at San Diego, San Diego 8:00
4	Cincinnati at Tampa Bay, Tampa 8:00
5	Minn. at Denver, Denver (NBC) 1:30
5	Philadelphia at N. Engl., Foxboro, Mass. 8:00

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Nov. 14 — Green Bay vs Bears at 1 p.m.
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Instant Replay

by Kevin Pates
Bear Report Editor

Getting Around

The response to the Bear Report has been very interesting through our first two issues. Subscribers are now getting Doug Buffone's weekly tabloid in 19 different states, from Arizona to Wyoming, Minnesota, California and Florida.

Beginning with this issue, the Bear Report will also be available at selected newstands in Chicago. Our distributor is the Charles Levy Co.

Heavy Reading

Pro football players from all over the country get a mental as well as a physical workout each year during pre-season camp sessions; and the Bears are no different.

Offensive and defensive classrooms are scheduled each night. Huge manuals accompany the players whenever they go after practice. These manuals are the bible for the season and contain diagrams, football philosophies and notes.

It's our workbook and a reference for pre-season checkpoints," said linebacker Doug Buffone. "We hand them (the manuals) in after the season and then get the same ones the next year. You then update your notes from year to year."

And don't think that these football textbooks are not considered valuable. If they're lost, a replacement will cost the delinquent player \$1,000.

Ditka at Dallas

Former Bear tight end Mike Ditka is beginning his fourth year on the Dallas Cowboy coaching staff in 1976. Ditka joined the Cowboys, as a coach, in 1973 after 12 seasons as a player in the NFL.

Ditka, an all-American at the University of Pittsburgh, became the prototype of the modern tight end after being drafted number one by Chicago in 1961. From 61-66 he played well enough to now rank as the Bears' second-leading all-time leading receiver behind Johnny Morris.

Ditka caught 316 passes, for 4,503 yards and 34 touchdowns while with the Bears.

He was born in Aliquippa, Pa. and spent his final four playing seasons with the Cowboys. He now coaches their tight ends and special teams.

State University Players

The 1976 University of Illinois football press guide has a special section devoted to "Illini in the NFL."

Listed in that section are 30 former Illinois athletes who have at one time played for the Bears, including: Ed O'Bradovich, Cyril Pinder, Dick Butkus, Red Grange, Jim Grabowski, Stan Wallace, J.C. Caroline and of course Mr. Halas himself, who played for Illinois in 1917.

J.C. Caroline is currently concluding a decade of work as an assistant Illini football coach. He is in charge of the defensive backfield.

The two most recent Illinois players with the Bears are offensive guard Revie Sorey and linebacker Tom Hicks. Both are second-year players presently on the Club's roster.

Super Bowl Scene

If you're beginning to plan a trip to either Super Bowl XI or XII, here are the sites: XI at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California (Sunday, Jan. 9, 1977); and XII at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans (Sunday, Jan. 15, 1978). It's positive thinking Bear fans.

Negotiate

Bears' general manager Jim Finks, along with the Steelers' Dan Rooney and the Bills' Ralph Wilson make up the newly-appointed team representing the Management Council in the continuing negotiations between the National Football League and the Players Association.

Letters to the Editor

Bear Report welcomes all Letters to the Editor. Due to space limitations, it may be necessary to shorten letters to fill the space available. Bear Report does not necessarily agree with the views stated in letters we receive.

Letters to the Editor 1948 N. Lincoln Chicago, Ill. 60614



Once a Bear Fan ...

Dear Sir,

I'm a small town newspaper editor in southern Wisconsin with a quest. And that is, to be able to cheer for my favorite team — the Chicago Bears — without being persecuted by those in the heart of Packerland.

For years I've been subjected to the psychological warfare and brainwashing tactics of the Packer Backers in order to win me over to their side. But I can successfully say that I've stayed true to the Bear orange and Blue. All I ask is that I be able to publicly root for my favorite team without fear of ridicule.

Down in the black dirt, tall corn, hog raising country of Western Illinois where I came from, they'd never heard of Packer fans. We were born and raised on the Chicago Bears. The Bears were as much a part of my life as fried chicken, homemade biscuits, and apple pie. Guess that's why I love the Bears so much.

Sure we've had some rough seasons. But givin' up when the going gets rough is the easy thing to do. There's just something about the Bears that is born and bred in us. We couldn't get it out of our systems if we tried. Once a Bear fan, always a Bear fan. Even those defectors I know still have a spark of loyalty in them.

Who can resist the magical excitement of Jack Brickhouse, George Connor and Irv Kupcinet. It gets in your blood. It's as contagious and incurable as love. Anyone who has seen Papa Bear Halas pacing along the sidelines politely giving advice to officials has to be caught up in the color of the game. Anyone who remembers the likes of Sid Luckman, Willie Gallimore, Rick Caseres and the legendary Gale Sayers knows why he's proud to be a Bear fan.

I'm no technician of the game. I'm no strategist. I can't sit in front of the idiot box and determine the best play to use next. All I know is that when the Bears are on the field I'm watching.

And when they rip off that long gainer, or intercept that pass, or block that punt, I'm on my feet cheering. Many a fine Sunday dinner has gone cold on the table. Many times a disgusted wife has thrown her hands up in despair. Even the sweet faces of my two beautiful kids are streaked with tears because daddy, on Sunday afternoon, belongs only to the Chicago Bears.

Yes that Bear magic, that Bear appeal is something. It's something we have no control over. It guides the destiny of our lives during the football season. My Sunday plans are made around one thing, being in front of that TV set. Let company come. Let the world cave in. The Bears still come first with me.

Some people kid me about my politics. And I tell them it took my party 20 years to regain a

national championship. If I can wait that long on a political party I can sure give the Bears a lot longer.

I feel good though. Things are looking up — hopefully beginning to turn around for the Bears. Our new management looks good and so does a lot of the talent, old and new. Yes I think things are at about the turn around point for the Bears.

As you can tell, I'm a dyed in the wool, true blue Bear fan. I believe in them and I know they're gonna do it for their fans.

Let those Packer fans harrass me. Let them apply their psychological warfare and their brain-washing tactics. I'll never quit loving' those Bears.

Someone's pounding on my door. Its the Packerland MVD. They've come for me. They're dragging me away. Help! Help! Hear this. These may be my last words. Lets all sing one last refrain of BEAR DOWN CHICAGO BEARS.

Sincerely,
Bruce Harrison
Sun Prairie, Wis.

More Wisconsin Notes

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing my check for \$9.95 for 26 issues of Doug Buffone's Chicago Bear Report! Being an avid Bear fan from Northern Wisconsin this really sounds great.

Good luck to the Bears and the most 'underrated' linebacker in football today' — Doug Buffone! Have a great year and thanks very much.

Dave Skornicka
Eau Claire, Wis.

A Little Further South

Dear Doug,

Bear fans have waited a long time for a publication like the Bear Report. I am sure that it will be an overwhelming success. Enclosed find my check for \$9.95.

Could you please write back and inform me how much extra it would be to have the paper sent first class. In that way I will receive the Bear Report early in the week.

Thank you and the best of luck during the season and with the Bear Report.

Sincerely,
Carmine R. Manganiello
Coral Springs, Florida

(For other readers interested, the cost of mailing 26 issues of the Bear Report first class is an additional \$10.60. Ed.)

CAMP TRANSACTIONS

Lake Forest, Ill. — In keeping with their Tuesday Cut Policy the Bears put six players on waivers July 27. That pre-season cut brought the size of the Club's roster to 61, including about a half-dozen injured athletes.

Put on waivers were three rookies: Gary Evans (CB, Northeast Missouri), Bill Hoban (DE, Michigan) and Jeff Tryon (CB, Boise State); second-year man Jim Hovey (LB, Kentucky); and third-year men Champ Henson (RB, Ohio State) and Brad Cousino (LB, Miami (Ohio)).

Name	Ht	Wt	Age	College	Reason for Cut
Brad Cousino (LB)	6-0	219	23	Miami (Ohio)	July 27-Waivers
Gary Evans (CB)	6-0	181	21	Northeast Missouri	July 27-Waivers
Champ Henson (RB)	6-3	240	23	Ohio State	July 27-Waivers
Bill Hoban (DE)	6-4	236	23	Michigan	July 27-Waivers
Jim Hovey (LB)	6-4	222	23	Kentucky	July 27-Waivers
Jeff Tryon (CB)	6-1	185	22	Boise State	July 27-Waivers



1976 National Football League Schedule

(All Times Local)

First Weekend

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Baltimore at New England	1:00
Denver at Cincinnati	1:00
Detroit at Chicago	1:00
Los Angeles at Atlanta	1:00
Minnesota at New Orleans	1:00
New York Giants at Washington	1:00
New York Jets at Cleveland	1:00
Philadelphia at Dallas	1:00
Pittsburgh at Oakland	1:00
St. Louis at Seattle	1:00
San Diego at Kansas City	1:00
San Francisco at Green Bay	1:00
Tampa Bay at Houston	1:00

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Miami at Buffalo	9:00
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Second Weekend

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Atlanta at Detroit	1:00
Chicago at San Francisco	1:00
Cincinnati at Baltimore	2:00
Cleveland at Pittsburgh	1:00
Dallas at New Orleans	1:00
Green Bay at St. Louis	1:00
Houston at Buffalo	1:00
Los Angeles at Minnesota	3:00
Miami at New England	1:00
New York Giants at Philadelphia	1:00
New York Jets at Denver	2:00
San Diego at Tampa Bay	1:00
Seattle at Washington	1:00

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Oakland at Kansas City	8:00
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Third Weekend

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Atlanta at Chicago	1:00
Baltimore at Dallas	3:00
Buffalo at Tampa Bay	1:00
Cleveland at Denver	2:00
Green Bay at Cincinnati	1:00
Minnesota at Detroit	1:00
New England at Pittsburgh	1:00
New Orleans at Kansas City	1:00
New York Giants at Los Angeles	1:00
New York Jets at Miami	1:00
Oakland at Houston	1:00
St. Louis at San Diego	1:00
San Francisco at Seattle	1:00

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Washington at Philadelphia	9:00
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Fourth Weekend

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

Cincinnati at Cleveland	1:00
Dallas at Seattle	1:00
Detroit at Green Bay	1:00
Houston at New Orleans	1:00
Kansas City at Buffalo	1:00
Los Angeles at Miami	4:00
New York Giants at St. Louis	1:00
Oakland at New England	1:00
New York Jets at San Francisco	1:00
Philadelphia at Atlanta	1:00
San Diego at Denver	2:00
Tampa Bay at Baltimore	2:00
Washington at Chicago	1:00

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

Pittsburgh at Minnesota	8:00
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Fifth Weekend

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

Atlanta at New Orleans	1:00
Buffalo at New York Jets	1:00
Chicago at Minnesota	1:00
Dallas at New York Giants	1:00
Denver at Houston	1:00
Kansas City at Washington	1:00
Miami at Baltimore	4:00
New England at Detroit	1:00
Oakland at San Diego	1:00
Pittsburgh at Cleveland	1:00
St. Louis at Philadelphia	1:00
Seattle vs. Green Bay (Milw.)	1:00
Tampa Bay at Cincinnati	1:00

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

San Francisco at Los Angeles	6:00
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Sixth Weekend

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

Baltimore at Buffalo	1:00
Chicago at Los Angeles	1:00
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh	1:00
Cleveland at Atlanta	1:00
Dallas at St. Louis	3:00
Detroit at Washington	1:00
Houston at San Diego	1:00
Kansas City at Miami	1:00
New Orleans at San Francisco	1:00
New York Giants at Minnesota	1:00
Oakland at Denver	2:00
Philadelphia at Green Bay	1:00
Seattle at Tampa Bay	1:00

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

New York Jets at New England	9:00
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Seventh Weekend

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23

Atlanta at San Francisco	7:00
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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24

Baltimore at New York Jets	1:00
Chicago at Dallas	1:00
Cincinnati at Houston	3:00
Denver at Kansas City	1:00
Detroit at Seattle	1:00
Green Bay at Oakland	1:00
Los Angeles at New Orleans	1:00
Miami at Tampa Bay	1:00
Minnesota at Philadelphia	1:00
New England at Buffalo	1:00
Pittsburgh at New York Giants	1:00
San Diego at Cleveland	1:00

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

St. Louis at Washington	9:00
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Eighth Weekend

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

Cleveland at Cincinnati	1:00
Dallas at Washington	4:00
Denver at Oakland	1:00
Green Bay at Detroit	1:00
Kansas City at Tampa Bay	1:00
Minnesota at Chicago	1:00
New England at Miami	1:00
New Orleans at Atlanta	1:00
New York Jets at Buffalo	1:00
Philadelphia at New York Giants	1:00
San Diego at Pittsburgh	1:00
San Francisco at St. Louis	1:00
Seattle at Los Angeles	1:00

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Houston at Baltimore	9:00
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Ninth Weekend

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Atlanta at Seattle	1:00
Baltimore at San Diego	1:00
Buffalo at New England	1:00
Cleveland at Houston	1:00
Detroit at Minnesota	3:00
Miami at New York Jets	1:00
New Orleans vs. Green Bay (Milw.)	1:00
New York Giants at Dallas	1:00
Oakland at Chicago	1:00
Philadelphia at St. Louis	1:00
Pittsburgh at Kansas City	1:00
Tampa Bay at Denver	2:00
Washington at San Francisco	1:00

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Los Angeles at Cincinnati	9:00
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Tenth Weekend

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Chicago at Green Bay	1:00
Denver at San Diego	1:00
Detroit at New Orleans	1:00
Houston at Cincinnati	1:00
Kansas City at Oakland	1:00
Miami at Pittsburgh	4:00
New England at Baltimore	2:00
Philadelphia at Cleveland	1:00
St. Louis at Los Angeles	1:00
San Francisco at Atlanta	1:00
Seattle at Minnesota	1:00
Tampa Bay at New York Jets	1:00
Washington at New York Giants	1:00

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Buffalo at Dallas	8:00
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Eleventh Weekend

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Chicago at Detroit	1:00
Cincinnati at Kansas City	1:00
Cleveland at Tampa Bay	1:00
Dallas at Atlanta	1:00
Houston at Pittsburgh	1:00
Los Angeles at San Francisco	1:00
Minnesota vs. Green Bay (Milw.)	1:00
New England at New York Jets	1:00
New Orleans at Seattle	1:00
New York Giants at Denver	2:00
Oakland at Philadelphia	1:00
San Diego at Buffalo	1:00
Washington at St. Louis	3:00

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Baltimore at Miami	9:00
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Twelfth Weekend

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25
(Thanksgiving Day)

Buffalo at Detroit	12:30
St. Louis at Dallas	2:30

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Atlanta at Houston	1:00
Denver at New England	1:00
Green Bay at Chicago	1:00
Kansas City at San Diego	1:00
Miami at Cleveland	1:00
New Orleans at Los Angeles	1:00
New York Jets at Baltimore	2:00
Philadelphia at Washington	1:00
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati	3:00
Seattle at New York Giants	1:00
Tampa Bay at Oakland	1:00

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Minnesota at San Francisco	6:00
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Thirteenth Weekend

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

Atlanta at Los Angeles	12:30
Baltimore at St. Louis	12:00

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

Buffalo at Miami	4:00
Chicago at Seattle	1:00
Dallas at Philadelphia	1:00
Detroit at New York Giants	1:00
Green Bay at Minnesota	1:00
Houston at Cleveland	1:00
Kansas City at Denver	2:00
New Orleans at New England	1:00
San Francisco at San Diego	1:00
Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh	1:00
Washington at New York Jets	1:00

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

Cincinnati at Oakland	6:00
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Fourteenth Weekend

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

Los Angeles at Detroit	9:00
Minnesota at Miami	1:00
Pittsburgh at Houston	2:30

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

Buffalo at Baltimore	2:00
Cincinnati at New York Jets	1:00
Cleveland at Kansas City	1:00
Denver at Chicago	1:00
Green Bay at Atlanta	1:00
New England at Tampa Bay	1:00
St. Louis at New York Giants	1:00
San Diego at Oakland	1:00
San Francisco at New Orleans	1:00
Seattle at Philadelphia	1:00
Washington at Dallas	3:00

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis...	11	3	0	.786	356	276
Dallas.....	10	4	0	.714	350	268
Washington..	8	6	0	.571	325	276
N.Y. Giants..	5	9	0	.357	216	306
Philadelphia..	4	10	0	.286	225	302

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota...	12	2	0	.857	377	180
Detroit.....	7	7	0	.500	249	258
GREEN BAY..	4	10	0	.286	226	285
Chicago.....	4	10	0	.286	191	379

Western Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles..	12	2	0	.857	312	135
San Francisco	5	9	0	.357	255	286
Atlanta.....	4	10	0	.286	240	289
New Orleans..	2	12	0	.143	165	360

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Eastern Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Baltimore...	10	4	0	.714	395	269
Miami.....	10	4	0	.714	357	222
Buffalo.....	8	6	0	.571	420	355
New England..	3	11	0	.214	258	358
N.Y. Jets....	3	11	0	.214	258	433

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh...	12	2	0	.857	373	162
Cincinnati...	11	3	0	.786	340	246
Houston.....	10	4	0	.714	293	226
Cleveland...	3	11	0	.214	218	372

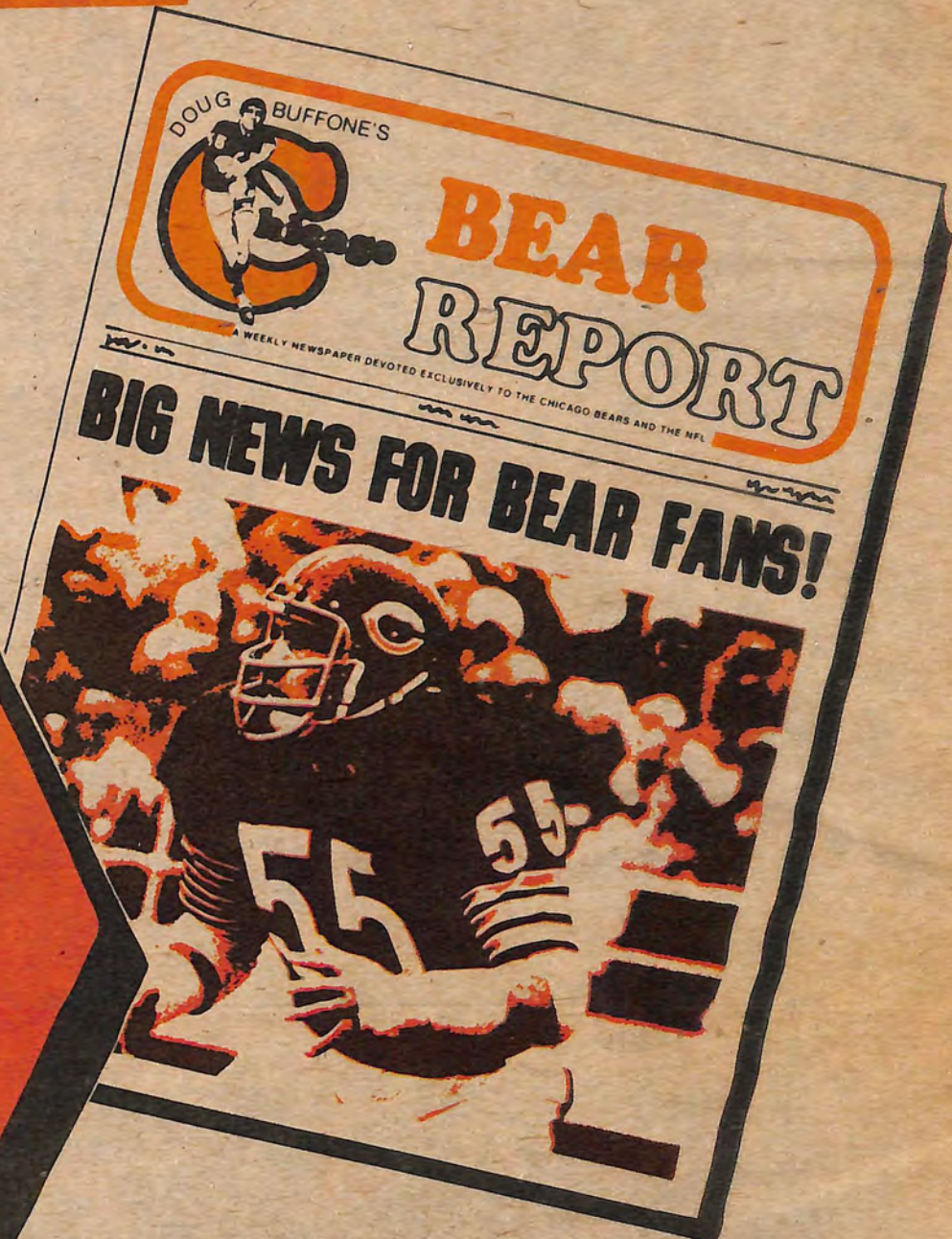
Western Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Oakland.....	11	3	0	.786	375	255
Denver.....	6	8	0	.429	254	307
Kansas City..	5	9	0	.385	282	341
San Diego...	2	12	0	.143	189	345

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